

# THE JERUSALEM POST

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## Cairo M.P.s attack cabinet

POST Middle East Affairs Correspondent  
Egypt's newly-elected parliament yesterday put off a vote of confidence in Premier Moustafae Salem's cabinet as unease over the country's economy, services and housing appeared to be spreading to the Chamber of Deputies. Salem was re-elected Prime Minister by President Anwar Sadat last month after Egypt's national elections.

The decision to adjourn the confidence vote followed speeches by several deputies who said they rejected "outright" a cabinet policy statement presented to parliament. Deputies described the statement as superficial and said that it failed to provide any realistic proposals for dealing with the country's growing problems.

The criticism of the government's policy statement was said by observers to be directed also at Sadat. Observers expressed the view that the criticism disturbed Sadat, though Premier Salem could have won a vote of confidence had the debate not been postponed.

Salem heads the centrist Egyptian Arab Socialist bloc which controls over two-thirds of the votes in the House. But many deputies in this bloc have apparently shifted to the opposition, made up of the rightist Social Democrats, the leftist National Progressive Unionists and individual independents.

In speeches delivered in the last two days, critical deputies have focused on the government's lack of vision in coping with Egypt's overwhelming domestic problems. Egypt's foreign debts are estimated at \$12 billion, mostly to the Soviet Union.

One speaker demanded that the government rescind a request to reschedule Egypt's debts to Moscow, saying that these debts "should be revised now that we have found out that the Soviets have been selling us (military and industrial) franchises at costs which were double and triple the market prices."

## Ford reverses decision on Unesco \$90m.

By WOLF BLITZER  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
WASHINGTON. — The Ford administration has decided to reverse its position on U.S. financial support for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) by proposing that \$90m. in U.S. contributions be allocated to the organization next year.

American sources said yesterday that Ford's budget recommendations for fiscal 1978, which must be submitted to Congress next month before Ford leaves office, will include the \$90m. for Unesco.

Israel sources here immediately expressed some disappointment in the timing of the reported decision. It had been Washington's view that Unesco's anti-Israel resolutions, adopted over the past two years, and the resultant politicization of the supposedly specialized UN agency, should disqualify it from U.S. financial assistance. The U.S. Congress, which initiated the U.S. cut-off in Unesco funding, was strongly opposed to the anti-Israel stance.

The U.S. did not pay its dues to Unesco last year, arguing that the organization should first reverse its discrimination against Israel. At the recently-concluded Unesco meeting in Nairobi, Israel was admitted to the European regional grouping, but anti-Israel resolutions were adopted.

Ford administration officials have apparently concluded that the re-admission of Israel into the European regional grouping was enough of a Unesco retreat to entitle it to U.S. funds.

Congress will still have the opportunity to reverse this Ford administration decision during the course of its legislative deliberation on the recommended fiscal 1978 budget.

Meanwhile, it was learned here yesterday that Israel has not yet decided whether to allow a visit to Israel by a Unesco delegation, which aims to investigate the situation of Arabs living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

## MEASURES LIKELY TO BE SHELVED IN COMMITTEE Alignment is outvoted on bills providing compulsory arbitration

By AARON SITTNER  
Jerusalem Post Reporter  
The Alignment suffered another defeat in the Knesset yesterday when the second one this week — when a cleverly engineered 55-to-52 vote sent to committee four private members' bills calling for compulsory arbitration of labour disputes involving vital public services.

The Alignment has been deadlocked against such legislation, fearing the wrath of the Histadrut. The issue of compulsory arbitration also assumed major political significance following the ultimatum by the Independent Liberals to Prime Minister Rabin some months ago demanding some form of legislation to restrain strikes and work sanctions that disrupt public life.

Despite the apparent victory of the anti-Alignment forces, some Knesset observers believe the successful move to refer the arbitration bills to committee may be a doubtful one at best.

The Labour Committee, which will receive the bills, is presently chaired by Shoshana Arbeli-Almoshino of the Alignment. What is

more, though the Alignment commands only eight out of the 17 seats in the committee, there is a Communist member there, who will support the Alignment, thus effectively shelving the bills indefinitely by a nine-to-eight count.

So, the observers said, it is quite unlikely any final action would be taken by the Knesset on the bills during this last session.

Yesterday's defeat for the Alignment came as a result of a swift combination of forces — the Likud, National Religious Party, Civil Rights Movement, Tori Front, Independent Liberals, Free Centre and Independent member Benjamin Halav.

Only Moked and the Communists voted with the Alignment.

As in the no-confidence motion earlier this month, none of these factions saw anything wrong in joining forces with traditionally hostile factions as long as the objective of the vote was a common one: to embarrass the Alignment and hand it a setback in the House. In his arbitration bill, Eliezer

## Armed clashes after Chinese political unrest

PEKING. — Political unrest in the northern Chinese city of Paoing has erupted into armed conflict, including murder, rape and bank robberies, reliable sources said last night. They reported that long-existing disputes in Paoing, 180 kilometres south of here, were now being quelled on special orders from Peking.

The conflict, which has been briefly mentioned in the official news media, has led to factories

being blown up, raids on military arsenals and robberies of banks, grain stores and shops, the sources added.

They said the violence in Paoing, on China's main north-south railway line, had also disrupted the supply of relief materials to the earthquake-devastated city of Tangshan.

Earlier this month the official "People's Daily" newspaper said that Mao Tse-tung's widow, Chiang Ching and her fellow-members of the so-

## 'A warning to workers'

TEL AVIV. — Labour Party Secretary-General Meir Zarmi said yesterday that the support for the compulsory arbitration law in the Knesset should serve as a warning to the country's workers of what was liable to happen if the labour movement lost power.

He pointed out, in a statement released to the press, that such laws had failed in many progressive countries — some of which had passed such a law and later repealed it after bitter experience. He expressed the hope that the law — passed to committee yesterday — would be defeated in future readings.

The Free Centre's bill — by Akiva Nof — was the most detailed of the four. Among the vital services for which compulsory arbitration would be prescribed are water supply, electric stations, health and hospitals, and food supply. The arbitration process would come under the aegis of the District Court, which would be empowered to order the immediate end of a strike pending arbitration. Any person pre-

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## Move to stall P.M. selection to after May

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT  
Jerusalem Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Some senior Labour Party leaders are considering the possibility of heading their list with a "leadership group" and putting off the choice of a prime minister until after the May elections.

The idea, which is based on the assumption that Labour will be able to form a Government after the new Knesset is elected, reflects the growing concern that an open fight between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Defence Minister Shimon Peres would cost the Labour Alignment votes in May. Under current procedures, the candidate could not be chosen until the end of February or early in March, about two months before election day.

The latest proposal has been made with the knowledge, and probably with the tacit support, of Rabin. It is said to be supported by a "big group" within the party. But matters will crystallize only in a day or two, a highly placed source told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

The leadership group idea appeared to have gained momentum after an earlier proposal — to have the current Labour Central Committee choose the candidate — had run into strong opposition among divergent groups in the party.

Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz was said to have been active in the behind-the-scenes moves to facilitate a decision in the outgoing Central Committee. This proposal encountered sharp criticism.

Secretary-General Meir Zarmi, Defence Minister Shimon Peres and former Foreign Minister Abba Eban favoured a decision in the new Central Committee, which will be elected in February.

Zarmi told a press conference here yesterday that no party forum

had discussed making the decision in the outgoing council. He argued that the convention, which will be elected on February 1, and the new Central Committee it will elect, are entitled to change decisions made now.

Sources close to Eban pointed out that the incumbent Central Committee was elected eight years ago. Since then 80,000 new members have joined the party, and many have left. A decision in the outgoing council will make a mockery of the democratization process emerging in the party, these sources added.

Yosef Nevo, who heads the group of leaders of all Labour Party districts (except those in the three big cities and the kibbutz and moshav movements) said none of his group "will allow" a decision in the outgoing Central Committee. Technically, the incumbent committee members may make a decision now, but this would jeopardize their chances of being re-elected, Nevo said.

Zarmi said yesterday he will approach the candidates for the premiership "and try to see whether there is a possibility of reaching an early agreement."

An agreement among the three candidates — Rabin, Peres and Eban — to postpone the race and an arrangement for the Central Committee to elect a "leadership team" may be advantageous to Labour.

It is not clear how Peres will react to this proposal. The minister spent yesterday morning with a military unit which completed its manoeuvres in Sinai, but continued his meetings in Tel Aviv later in the day.

Eban has lately been holding meetings with potential supporters. There have been reports he has

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## Carter chooses Robert Lipshutz as Counsel

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Georgia. — President-elect Jimmy Carter disclosed yesterday that Atlanta lawyer Robert Lipshutz will be his White House Counsel.

Mr. Carter revealed the appointment of Mr. Lipshutz, 55, a remark during a television interview, and it was immediately confirmed by press secretary Jody Powell.

The job of Counsel to the President is loosely defined and calls for a varying amount of legal work and general policy advice.

Mr. Lipshutz was Mr. Carter's campaign treasurer and has been an adviser and friend for 10 years. During the television interview Mr. Carter was defending his choice for Attorney-General, Mr. Griffin Bell, who resigned from a number of Atlanta clubs barred to blacks or Jews after being criticized for having been a member.

## No evidence of big terrorist move south

By HIRSH GOODMAN  
Jerusalem Post Military Correspondent

Israel sources said last night they had no knowledge of reports that Palestinian terrorists have begun returning to south Lebanon in large numbers. There was no concrete evidence to back up reports that terrorists were moving heavy arms into the region, according to

Reports of a major terrorist build-up in the south have been broadcast by the Phalange radio during the last three days. The persistent claims by the right-wing Christians put the number of terrorists in the area at 25,000.

Israel sources along the Lebanese border have noted no unusual activity in south Lebanon recently despite Phalangist and Palestinian reports of major artillery duels there.

Both the Phalangist radio and the PLO news agency, Wafa, yesterday reported artillery exchanges in the Arakoub area, known in Israel as Fatahland. The exchanges, according to Beirut-dated reports

from AP and Reuters, were being stepped up.

(Reuters said that Phalangist leader Pierre Gemayel had accused the Palestinians of moving heavy arms into the south, in advance of an offensive against Christian villages there. Other Christian leaders were quoted as saying some towns were threatened by the move.

A Palestinian spokesman, in the same dispatch, was quoted as saying that heavy arms merely were being moved out of Beirut and major towns in accordance with a request of the Arab Peace Force.)

There was no confirmation from any other source of a report in Beirut's "al-Hawadeth" weekly that the Palestine Liberation Army (P.L.A.) has been withdrawing its units from Lebanon to former bases in Arab states. P.L.A. units had been stationed in Syria, Egypt and Iraq.

In Washington, Israel and American sources said that they had no confirmation of reports on the terrorists.

## Syrian 'freeing' of Jews greeted with caution

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Reports from Damascus that restrictions on Syrian Jews have been lifted were viewed by sources in Jerusalem last night with a cautious wait-and-see attitude. "Our main concern is that the Jews be allowed to go free," one source said. "If restrictions are being eased, we want proof."

The assessment followed official Syrian "confirmation" on Tuesday of a claim in the Kuwaiti daily "Al-Kabab" that the prohibitions imposed over 28 years ago — involving movement, property, education, jobs and basic civil liberties — have been revoked.

Ya'acov Tsar, the new chairman of the Public Council for Jews in Arab Lands, told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that "we won't be satisfied until all the 4,500 Jewish hostages in Syria are allowed to emigrate. Restrictions can be eased or tightened from one day to the next. The Jewish community is small and their existence is hard. We don't know how long they can last under such conditions."

If the Syrian Government is serious about its declaration of a change in policy, he added, they should prove it. A sign would be an easing of conditions for the hard-pressed Jews in the town of Kamishli, and emigration permits for all young Jewish women who have trouble finding Jewish husbands.

Tsar said his organization knows of "a few isolated examples" of Jews being allowed to leave Syria.

"But they were mostly Jews seeking medical treatment, and they have had to pay a deposit of \$5,000 each while leaving their relatives in Syria."

The Syrian Government's declaration "did not come as a surprise" to officials in the Public Council, Tsar asserted. The Syrians appear to want a better image, he said, and they seem to be bowing somewhat to pressures by world public opinion against their oppression of Jews.

Another source suggested that the report from Kuwait was merely a ploy by the Arabs to endear them to U.S. President-elect Jimmy Carter. He pointed out that a false alarm, asserting that all Syrian Jews would be given emigration permits, emanated from Paris and the Arab world last October.

It was noted in Jerusalem, however, that the reports from Damascus were the first public admission by the Syrian Government that it indeed has been restricting the lives of its Jews.

The news was received by Alain Poper, president of the French Senate and head of the International Council for Jews in Arab Lands, with satisfaction, but a desire to have facts. "If it is true, it would be the best one could have hoped for on New Year's Eve. I have been in contact with Syrian authorities for several months and also sent messages through the UN. If this news is true," he said in Paris, "it would prove that all the efforts of everybody concerned were justified and bore fruit."

(Leader — page 5)



Professor and Mrs. Hochman

## Cancer specialist gets nine months for tax evasion

Cancer specialist Prof. Avraham Hochman was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment for income tax evasion by the District Court in Jerusalem yesterday. He was fined IL100,000 and received an additional nine months' suspended sentence.

His wife, Shoshana, was sentenced to three months in jail, and was fined IL50,000.

The couple were convicted of evading taxes on IL70,000 of income over a six-year period, from 1969 to 1975. Prof. Hochman was head of the Oncology Department at the Hadassah Medical Centre from 1950. He and his wife were convicted largely on the basis of testimony by former patients and relatives of patients.

In Tel Aviv, the District Court sentenced businessman Eli Dayan to three months in prison and a fine of IL180,000 (plus six months' suspended) for evading taxes on IL98,000 of income over three years. Dayan deals in typewriters and calculators.

(Itm)

## The New York Times crossword puzzle

Is it too hard for readers of The Jerusalem Post?

Test yourself tomorrow

## SWEET 'N LOW NOW IN ISRAEL

You'll now find the world-famous sugar substitute in Israel. The name to ask for in Hebrew is "Matok Veh Kal." Most stores already stock it, so ask for it by name. And enjoy the taste of sugar, without the calories!

Fresh as if ground right now!

The moment you open a tin of Elite Turkish Coffee

you can smell the aromatic fragrance of freshly ground coffee. The secret? Elite Turkish Coffee is vacuum-packed. It keeps the rich quality fresh and hermetically sealed until you drink it.



Life is sweet with "Turkish" CHOC



Elite Turkish Coffee in vacuum-packed tins of 200gr. and 150gr. and in hermetically packed cellophane bags of 100gr.



## 'Stories on suspects may harm courts'

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
HAIFA. — District Court President Yehoshua Guvinnik said yesterday that "unbridled media publicity" surrounding certain suspects would prejudice the judges but might harm the image of the courts if the suspects are finally acquitted.

Speaking to the Rotary Club, Guvinnik explained that "the stories" about suspects convicted of public of their guilt. Furthermore, the suspects, undoubtedly, would greatly from the publicity. There were no laws to bridge the media and it was up to the editors to exercise restraint.

## Pensioners' pay a growing burden on wage earners

The National Insurance Institute will pay some 112,700m. in pensions to 300,000 old-age and survivors benefit recipients in the current year, NII director R. Rotter said yesterday.

The money is collected in the form of insurance payments from some 1.2 million wage earners, which means that each pensioner is paid for by four workers. Rotter pointed out, in a high-ranking, reflects a growing proportion of aged persons in the population.

He pointed out that 16 years ago it took payments from seven wage earners to finance each pensioner, and the payments were smaller then. These grew from 23 per cent of the wage in 1954 to 53 per cent. Actual forecasts of the NII indicate this trend of aging population will continue, with the number of the aged and wage beneficiaries in the beginning of the 80s.

## Bank of Israel opposes further reduction of linkage rate

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
A Bank of Israel memorandum warns against reducing the rate of index-linked bonds to 70 per cent, as planned by the Treasury, because this would have the effect of reducing savings.

The recently introduced 80 per cent linkage is the minimum that guarantees a positive rate of return under any rate of inflation that may prevail, the memorandum states. But the proposed 70 per cent linkage would yield a positive rate of return only if the rate of inflation falls below 15 per cent a year. At a higher rate of inflation, such bonds would not maintain their real value.

According to the Bank's weekly report on the capital market, the rate of return on index-linked bonds is generally between 1 and 2 per cent. Short-term investments, such as the unlinked short-term government bonds, generally have a negative rate of return. Long-term investments, such as the "18,000 Plan," guarantee a high rate of return, but only if the money is not withdrawn before the maturity date, namely six years.

## Abie sailing today to Egypt with chocolate

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT  
Jerusalem Post Reporter  
TEL AVIV. — Abie Nathan, the self-styled peace seeker, today will sail his Peace Ship to Port Said with toys and chocolates worth 115,000 for the children there. He will try to pass through the Suez Canal on Saturday.

Nathan told a press conference yesterday that tomorrow night he will broadcast an appeal to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat for permission to transit the Canal. He also mailed a request to Sadat last week. Nathan wrote: "We do not believe that peace will come by our ship, but by continuing to broadcast our message... we give hope to those who doubt, and give strength to those who believe, that peace is reachable."

The Egyptians have rebuffed earlier moves by Nathan. Since February 1977, Nathan twice flew his one-engine plane to Egypt, arrived on a passenger plane once and sailed there twice on his ship. His last attempt was in October 1976, when he took 100,000 flowers to distribute to Egyptians. But officials in Port Said would not let the ship through. Nathan loaded the flowers on a small boat, sailed into the port and left the boat and the flowers there.

In an attempt to overcome difficulties the Egyptians posed during his previous attempts to transit the Canal, Nathan paid an Egyptian agent the \$2,600 fee to transit the Canal. He also decided not to take any Israelis on board. He is travelling on his British passport and the crew comprises British, American, Dutch, Philippine, and French citizens. The ship is flying the Panama flag.

Nathan said he had planned to begin colour television broadcasts in February and that he has the money for a transmitter and other appliances so that the broadcasts could be received from Beirut to Alexandria. However, the station will begin broadcasting only after the Knesset elections, he said. He claimed some parties offered him as much as 111m. to broadcast their campaign material over the radio station, but that he rejected the offers.

## NRP executive wants party elections postponed

Jerusalem Post Political Reporter  
TEL AVIV. — The Executive of the National Religious Party unanimously recommended yesterday that party elections be postponed.

The Executive met because the party's court ruled (on November 30) that it must set a date for elections. But the court added that the central committee was empowered to postpone elections.

So yesterday the Executive set July 13 as the tentative election date, and scheduled a central committee meeting for January 1978 to approve the postponement.

The party's factions have been at loggerheads over the election date. Some have all along wanted to postpone them, apparently because they suspect that their strength has declined since the last internal elections, in October 1972.

Yesterday's unanimity is partly explained by the fact that party regulations, 160 days are required for preparation of elections.

In any case, therefore, party elections could not be held before the Knesset elections.

While the central committee is empowered to change these regulations, some party leaders want to avoid an internal power struggle just before the Knesset elections.

One source said that the unanimity shown at yesterday's 15-minute session was only superficial. The clashes will be renewed after the central committee's meeting, the source predicted.

## Germans slip by Israel 1-0 Royal rescue for freezing woman

By PAUL KOHN  
Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter  
TEL AVIV. — In an incessant downpour on a slippery pitch, the West German Olympic soccer team yesterday beat Israel 1-0 at the Ramat Gan Stadium. Some 5,000 soaked fans braved the weather and primitive conditions of the national sports stadium.

The German team was better adapted to the wintry conditions, using long passes and fast breaks to threaten the Israeli goal. The home side, on the other hand, played a short passing game which got stuck in the heavy ground, and shot far too little to test the German goalkeeper, Ulrich Stein, who has not conceded a goal in the team's last five games.

Twice Stein saved brilliantly from Viktor Peres, and those were the only two real scoring chances that the Israeli attack fashioned. There were plenty of high balls into the goalmouth, but the Israeli attack sadly lacks a single forward capable of rising above a defence to head the ball firmly into the opposing net. Early in the first half Moshe Schweitzer did head goalward, but it was directly at Stein.

In the 30th minute, after being sent away by "Muti" Leon, Schweitzer hit the German post.

The German goal was scored in the 44th minute, when Hans Otto Jordan lobbed the ball in from the left wing for Ewald Hammes to nod into the Israeli net. Goalkeeper Yossi Sorokin should have cut out the centre.

The Israeli youth team (up to 19) fared better than the seniors, beating Switzerland 2-0 in the early game. The Israeli goals were scored in the 21st minute, by Danny Cohen, and in the 29th minute, by Ben-Gali. (More sport — Page 6)

## Brezhnev 'welcomes' meeting with Carter

MOSCOW. — Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev has welcomed the prospect of a summit meeting with President-elect Jimmy Carter, Tass said yesterday.

"The history of U.S.-Soviet relations," Tass quoted Brezhnev as saying, "has shown the usefulness and fruitfulness of summit meetings when each of the participants seeks a constructive, business-like dialogue. Therefore, we are for the continuation of such meetings." (Reuters)

## Amin's son dies

NAIROBI. — A son of Ugandan President Idi Amin, army Captain Noor Amin, collapsed and died Sunday, according to reports reaching here from Kampala yesterday. The 35-year-old Noor reportedly was celebrating with friends at an army barracks in the town of Jinja when he started vomiting blood. He was dead on arrival at a hospital. (AP)

## French want Flatto for 'real estate fraud'

Jerusalem Post Staff  
PARIS. — French police and judicial authorities are awaiting Israeli action on an international warrant issued here for the arrest of financier Samuel Flatto (Sharon), who was freed in Jerusalem on Tuesday on 1140 million bail.

Legal sources here say the warrant is based on allegations that Flatto is responsible for a massive real estate fraud which caused the bankruptcy of the Paris property firm, La Paternelle.

Many small investors were among the people who were ruined in the La Paternelle crash for a total of 400 million francs (equivalent to 111 billion).

Legal experts here point out that although the French Inland Revenue want to question Flatto in connection with alleged tax irregularities, under the Franco-Israeli extradition treaty, extradition could not be sought on those grounds.

The La Paternelle fraud, on the other hand, does fall within the scope of the agreement between the two countries.

Because of the Christmas week-end, the French press has devoted little space to Flatto's arrest in Israel. But Jewish community leaders are apprehensive that the attention focused on Flatto could trigger a wave of anti-Semitism against Jews in the property and banking world here.

In Jerusalem, attorney Yitzhak Tunkin, who is representing Flatto in his effort to resist extradition to France, said he had no knowledge of the suit filed against his client by a New York architect, reported in yesterday's "Ma'ariv."

Rabbi Mordechai Elefant, director of the Kri religious institutions in Jerusalem, who was reported to have been named in the suit together with Flatto, is out of the country. His wife said that the rabbi was convalescing in Europe from a "heart-attack scare" in Israel earlier in the week.

There are said to be close links between Flatto and the American rabbi. Last March, Flatto reportedly gave Elefant \$1 million to build a religious vocational school.

The school was to be named after the outgoing U.S. Treasury Secretary, William E. Simon, who attended the ceremony at the Jerusalem Hilton marking the presentation of the gift.

Interviewed yesterday by Israel radio's French programme, M. Le Guesne, director of the Department of Criminal Affairs of the French Ministry of Justice, said that the French now have 20 days in which to present their dossier on Flatto to the Israeli authorities.

He told interviewer Hélène Targan that even if Israel rejected the extradition request Flatto would be tried; in that case judgment would be passed in absentia.

## New Egged tactic may aim to halt transport

Jerusalem Post Staff  
Egged has decided to keep its operations at a constant balance starting next week, which means that it will not issue any cheques unless they have covering funds, The Jerusalem Post has learned.

The problem of a fuel shortage will also arise again next week, when Egged once more will be unable to meet its 10-day fuel bill and suppliers will stop supplying the bus cooperative with fuel.

Egged's tactics appear to be intended to bring public transport to a halt, while shifting the blame away from Egged.

Egged's latest threat to stop the bus service came yesterday, along with a demand that steps be taken to pay their increased insurance bill. Egged asserted that the Transport Ministry, to which the cooperative's complaints and demands are addressed, like all other insurers, can obtain credits from Avner, the insurance companies' pool for vehicle insurance. When the no-fault insurance law took effect, Egged had to pay 11.53 million.

The Transport Ministry spokesman said he had made arrangements to pay half the bill out of subsidies due Egged from the Government. He stressed, however, that the Government had no obligation to pay Egged's insurance bills, and that in any event there was no emergency involved, since Egged was covered by insurance through March. Meanwhile, Egged's 30-member management committee and its 120-member assembly both met yesterday to discuss the final report of the Golomb Committee, submitted last Friday.

## Maximum mortgage for olim to be raised

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter  
Taking into account — to some extent at least — the effect of inflation on housing prices in recent years, the Government and the Jewish Agency yesterday decided to raise the maximum on some immigrant mortgages by 114,000. The Jerusalem Post learned. The date on which the increase will take effect has not yet been set.

In Jerusalem, the maximum Government mortgages available to immigrant families will thus rise to 112,000, and in the rest of the country to 111,000.

At a closed session in Jerusalem yesterday attended by the Ministers of Absorption, Finance, Housing, Education, Labour, and Commerce, in addition to Jewish Agency officials, it was also decided to grant mortgages of 114,000 to immigrant families living in Government rental flats.

The figure — higher than for all other classes — was set in order to give the families an incentive to move into permanent housing. This arrangement has existed informally for some time; yesterday's decision makes it official.

In addition, the parties agreed that the Government would provide 120 to 150 research jobs in various ministries to new-immigrant academics. A committee composed of representatives of the Jewish Agency and the Ministries of Finance and Education will study a proposal by Education Minister Aharon Yadin to set aside a number of senior posts in the education network for new immigrants.

The participants also finalized a decision that the Government will purchase 1,500 to 2,000 flats on the private market for the permanent housing of immigrants.

## Soltrade failed to deliver to Johannesburg partner

By JOE KUTNER  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
JOHANNESBURG. — Glen Anil, South Africa's biggest township developing company, revealed this week that Soltrade, the Histradut's international construction division, with which it had formed a partnership known as National Soil Group, failed to deliver construction equipment worth 105 million rands, which was to have been part of its R2m. stake in the company. (One rand equals 10 Israeli pounds.)

National Soil Group is the road works and earth-moving company in the Glen Anil group which, with the assistance of a consortium of eight banks, is now trying to meet liabilities estimated to total R150m.

In June 1976, it was announced that Soltrade, had acquired a 50 per cent interest in N.S.G. for R600,000 in cash plus the R15m. worth of equipment.

The machinery was to have been exported to South Africa to enable the National Soil Group to carry out extensive diversification. When the equipment arrived, however, it was said to be fit only for the scrap heap.

## Checking up on dependent deserters

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
The Welfare Ministry is looking for information about anyone leaving the country and abandoning dependents, who are receiving social services. These include elderly parents and children in institutions.

Arye Brick, Ministry legal counsel, said this week that many of those leaving such dependents behind were recent immigrants to Israel. "We don't know if it was planned ahead," he said. He gave examples of a Beersheba man who wanted to leave his parents here, a Carmiel couple who left a retarded child, and a Tel Aviv man who went abroad "to look for work as a lecturer" — and tried to leave his wife in a mental hospital.

Legally, the Ministry can claim support money from the person responsible, or have the courts issue an order to delay the person's departure until guarantors are found. "It is not just the money involved,"

## Marine officers stop tanker from sailing

HAIFA. — The Marine Officers Union yesterday decided to hold up the sailing of a 30,000-ton Zim tanker, to force the company to speed negotiations over their labour contract.

Union secretary Adam Chislik said they had been discussing "various payments" with Zim for six months, and had now resorted to action.

## Fine for overcharging

HAIFA. — A 114,000 fine was the lot of a Haifa cafe owner who sold a bottle of soda water for 114.25, a gross profit of 380 per cent.

The prosecution said that the product was price-controlled and a deterring punishment should be imposed. The wholesale price of a bottle is 27 agorot and a fair price would be 55-60 agorot, said an expert at the trial.

A CIVIL DEFENCE exercise will be held today at the Herzliya-Nof Yarmouk area. Rescue operations will be staged and continuous sirens will be sounded for one or two minutes. In case of a real emergency, warning sirens will be heard for three minutes.

## Residents blame electric co. for supply cuts

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
Thousands of families in East Jerusalem and Bethlehem were blacked out last night for close to two hours. The East Jerusalem Electricity Corporation, which provides the current, blamed a short circuit on a high-tension line. Residents of the East Talpott housing development were also affected.

The fault was attributed to broken insulators by Ahmed Afidi, chairman of the corporation. He told The Jerusalem Post last night that the insulators between A-Tor on the Mount of Olives and Asariya had apparently been broken by children. Yesterday's rain caused the short. Repairmen were sent to the scene last night. The company reported current restored by 8 p.m.

Six representatives of East Talpott last night went to Mayor Teddy Kollek's home to complain that the irregularities were the fault of the company. They demanded to be connected to the National Grid.

## Strike at J'lem religious schools

Sixth grade pupils at seven State Religious schools are staying away from classes today in sympathy with the parents of children at Yehuda Halevi school in Katamon.

Parents at that school, who have been keeping their children home the entire week, demonstrated yesterday against the Ministry of Education. They want the seventh and eighth grades to be restored to the school. They claim that the ministry is condoning the violation of the integration principle by allowing students to register elsewhere for these grades.

Education Minister Aharon Yadin cabled the parents' committees yesterday, asking them not to strike.

## Students to be asked about tuition hikes

Jerusalem Post Education Correspondent  
Tuition fees at the country's teachers' seminars will not be increased, as proposed in the Messer Committee report made public late Sunday, before the students' representatives have had a chance to study the report carefully and have met to discuss it with the Education and Culture Minister next month.

This was announced by the Ministry spokesman Tuesday following a meeting at which the Minister officially handed a students' committee a copy of the report and held a preliminary discussion with them on its recommendations.

The report recommends that fees be linked to university fees, with students taking teaching courses recognized by the Higher Education Council paying 80 per cent of what university students pay (about 115,000 for a full university programme), and students taking non-recognized courses paying 50 per cent. Only 10 of the country's 60-odd teachers' seminars have "recognized" courses leading to a teacher's diploma equal to a university B.A. degree.

The committee was headed by Oded Messer, the Controller of Banks, and included representatives of the Higher Education Council, the Histradut, and the Association of Heads of Teachers' Seminars.

## Move to stall

(Continued from page one)  
reached an agreement to cooperate with Peres, but sources close to Eban said there is "no agreement and no deal."

These sources also said Peres does not view Eban's candidacy as harming his chances. This is an obvious reference to the fact that Eban, a dove, may draw some of Rabin's supporters but not those of Peres, who is regarded as more hawkish. If Rabin is thus weakened, Peres may win the nomination.

At yesterday's press conference, Zarmi said 250,321 people registered as party members in the census which ended recently. In the previous census, in 1969-70, some 286,000 people registered. Since the party claims 80,000 new members, this means only 170,000 of the old members registered again.

Zarmi said some 12 per cent of the population change their address every year, so it was impossible to track some of them. He also said the later census (which started in July) was shorter than the earlier one, which lasted for 18 months. But he conceded members had quit the party.

A Party source later acknowledged the present figure for party members may be inflated. The source acknowledged that Labour has cells in many works committees. The works committee leaders have a say in who should be promoted, and the source acknowledged some people may have preferred to pay the one-time 1110 payment, rather than oppose the works committee leader.

## T.A. Maccabi beats R.G. 125-107 in first round of Europa games

By STEVE KAPLAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter  
TEL AVIV. — In the opening round games of the Europa '77 tournament in Tel Aviv's Yeha Eliyahu Sports Palace, Tel Aviv Maccabi easily handled a Ramat-Gan all-star squad, 125-107, and the visiting Alentown Jets of the U.S. beat Tel Aviv Hapoel in the second game, 83-76.

League champions Tel Aviv Maccabi, using their game as preparation for the European Champions' Cup game in two weeks against Mobilgorgi of Italy, used all their players and had little trouble with the Ramat-Gan team. Jim Boatwright with 22 points, Aulcie Perry (21) and Mickey Berkowitz (19) led the scoring parade. For the losers, Gershon Dekel's 26 points was the high.

## Zemah sports centre

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
TIBERIAS. — The new Jordan Valley regional sports centre, at Zemah, will be inaugurated on Saturday night, with a friendly basketball game between the Alentown Jets and Tel Aviv Hapoel. The 11.5 million centre bears the name of Aluf-Mishne Gideon Banel, a senior officer of Northern Command, who died on active duty in December, 1969. He was one of the Tel Aviv team's founders and first players.

total prize fund  
ILS.544,000  
buy your ticket now  
and come to the  
draw tonight

mifal hapais

## THE WEATHER

Forecast: Rain during the morning, clearing in the afternoon.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	68	6-10	10
Golan	84	6-10	9
Nahariya	84	11-15	15
Safed	39	5-6	8
Haifa Port	74	12-15	17
Tiberias	79	9-16	17
Nearash	37	8-12	12
Afula	76	9-14	15
Shomron	62	7-11	11
Tel Aviv	76	10-16	17
B-D Airport	76	10-16	17
Jericho	51	10-20	20
Gaza	67	9-16	17
BeerSheva	73	7-16	16
Beit	34	10-20	20
Tiran Straits	29	16-20	20

## Social and Personal

President Ephraim Katzir yesterday tendered a reception for participants in the second International Symposium on Psychology, being held by The Hebrew University.

Richard Voh, Commercial Attache at the Austrian Embassy, will speak on: "Austria-Israel: Foreign Trade Relations and Future Aspects," at the weekly meeting of the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Rotary Club, today, 1.15, at ZOIA House.

Jerusalem's Women's ORT will show the film "My Father's House" today, 8 p.m., at Beit Ha'am. Tickets at the door. All proceeds go to a fund in memory of two ORT students who lost their lives last year in a terrorist attack. The fund will build a physical training room at the Kennedy ORT School.

## Red infiltration of Commons alleged



Defector Myagkov

Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
LONDON. — Chapman Pincher, the well-informed "Daily Express" defence expert, charged yesterday that there has been Communist infiltration of parliament, trade unions and other key British institutions. He charged that the operation was directed by the KGB and said that fuller details would be available early in 1977.

Pincher referred to this week's publication by a Soviet defector of details of "the KGB connection" promoting subversive activities in the West. He says that the defector, Captain Alexei Myagkov, 32, a former KGB officer, is on the KGB death list.

Myagkov says that the KGB has 110,000 full-time officers in charge of an army of agents and informers throughout the free world.

Pincher claims that Myagkov's information on Soviet penetration of the West German Government, led to the downfall of former Chancellor Brandt.

## NY political figure Alex Rose, 78, dies

NEW YORK. — Alex Rose, a powerful figure in New York City and state politics for 40 years, died yesterday.

Rose, 78, union leader who founded the New York Liberal Party in the 1930's, was considered an astute political strategist who helped elect mayors, governors and presidents.

In 1944, Rose founded the Liberal Party after the Communists gained control of the American Labour Party. While never holding any office, but vice-president, he was the undisputed boss of the Liberal Party which he built into a major electoral force in New York City, state and national elections.

He was also one of the founders of the National Committee for Labour Israel. (Reuters, JTA)

## Prof. Zeitlin dies

PHILADELPHIA. — Prof. Solomon Zeitlin, Distinguished Professor of Post-Biblical Literature and Institutions at Dropsie University and the world's leading authority on the Second Commonwealth period of Jewish History, died here Tuesday.

Prof. Zeitlin, who was at Dropsie since 1921, was the leading challenger to the claim that the Dead Sea Scrolls belonged to antiquity.

Born in Russia, Zeitlin received Smicha and a doctorate in theology from the Ecole Rabbinique in Paris. He came to the U.S. during World War I.

We deeply mourn the untimely death of our dear

HELMUT (JOSEF) FUSS

The funeral will take place tomorrow, Friday, December 31, 1976. For details, telephone 03-240851

The bereaved family

**TADMOR HOTEL**  
Herzliya  
invites you to its next Tuesday Night Dinner  
January 4, 1977  
**Special French-Style Dinner**  
IL60 plus VAT  
Tadmor Hotel, Herzliya, Tel. 03-535551



## Rains too late to save Negev crops

By ZEEV SCHUL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The rains of the last two days have come too late to save the Negev crops. Over half the Jewish farmers' winter (un-irrigated) wheat, barley and fodder crops will be written off and practically all of the wheat planted by Beduin — generally further south — is stunted and will not merit harvesting, a spokesman of the Agriculture Ministry field department told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

"Earning heavy rainfalls during the next week, the little that has survived may also have to be written off," he said.

The weatherman at the Beit Segin weather station offered no forecast. Today's outlook is partly cloudy with isolated local showers, continued clearing, Jewish farmers this year have

sown some 800,000 dunams of wheat, barley and fodder. Of this, 450,000 dunams are within the drought-affected area, south of Lachish. The Beduin are believed to have sown an additional 300,000 to 500,000 dunams, all in the South.

Farmers have the option of putting in new seed, hoping that heavy rainfalls within the next few weeks will germinate them and continuous rainfalls will see the plants through to maturity. However, an early end to the rains could leave the farmers with two successive crop failures within a single season.

In spite of the widespread crop failures, Ministry of Agriculture experts are reluctant to classify the year as a drought. They claim that "the rainfalls are up to the norms," and blame the timing, heavy rainfalls with too long intervals between them.

## 20,000th technical aid student due this week

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The 20,000th student from a country receiving technical aid from Israel is due to arrive this week, the Alon, Deputy Director-General of the Foreign Ministry, said yesterday. He was speaking at a conference in Jerusalem called the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the inauguration of Israel's programme of assistance to developing countries.

Between 800 and 1,000 students a year attend training courses given in 18 institutions in Israel. Over 100 countries have benefited from the programme, which is administered by the Ministry's Department of International Cooperation, Alon said.

Over 600 Israeli experts are now engaged in various aid projects in 100 countries. These are concentrated in Latin American countries and the Caribbean area.

Alon stated that African countries also continue to send students here. About 10 per cent of the total come from African countries, almost half from Latin America, and 42 per cent from Asian countries and the Mediterranean area.

"Because Israel is a new country, it has experienced some of the problems of developing countries, it

is in a particularly good position to offer them help, Alon declared. For example, Israel has had its own practical experience in community services, and youth programmes.

More than half the projects abroad are in the area of agricultural development, including rural settlement, utilization of water resources, and agricultural industry and marketing.

Extending technical assistance provides Israel with an opportunity for gaining the friendship and understanding of developing countries. Giving financial aid, however, would be beyond Israel's capacity. The projects are largely financed by outside sources, such as the International Development Bank, the Organisation of American States, the Netherlands Government, the Swedish International Development Authority, and various UN specialized agencies.

Israel's share in the programme is IL20 million, which covers about one-fifth of the total cost of the training courses in Israel. In addition to promoting good understanding, Alon pointed out that the projects spur the import of Israeli goods by the participating countries.

The courses are given in English, French, Spanish and, where there is a demand, in other languages.

## Plant owners could do more to attract women workers

By LEA LEVAVI

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — It isn't the Government's fault that more women work in industry and services, it isn't entirely the women's fault either, Arie Gurel, Director-General of the Ministry of Labour, said in a press conference here yesterday. He added that he thinks one of the blame must be levelled at the plant owners.

In other countries, he said, plant owners provide day nurseries on premises for children of work-mothers. Here, the nurseries built by the women's organizations and the Government, and not there are not enough to meet demand, but they are not on premises.

Gurel said the directors-general limited the following four recommendations to the ministerial committee on employment on incentives women workers:

It must be made financially worthwhile for women to work; working hours should be made more flexible;

Physical conditions at the factory should be changed to women's needs;

Day nurseries should be built on plant premises.

And how the first recommendations would be implemented —

whether by enforcing the law on "equal pay for equal work" or by changing income tax laws to recognize the special expenses of working women — Gurel at first said he could not yet give details. But he then revealed that there is a recommendation that employers be given incentives so that they in turn could pay women workers more. This, however, has not yet been brought before the ministers.

Only 9 per cent of the women who joined the labour force in 1975 went into industry, and in the first nine months of 1976, the figure dropped to 4 per cent. Getting women to volunteer to work in factories during times of emergency is also difficult, Gurel said, though the work is at full pay and women who enroll in training courses are paid pocket money while studying.

A new booklet outlining the laws affecting women's rights on and off the job. The booklet, prepared by the Ministry of Labour and the Information Centre will be sold for IL10 a copy and be distributed through women's organizations, workers' committees, and the Information Centre.

A RESIDENT of Kiryat Malachi won IL568,000 in Tuesday's "Lotto" draw. In last week's draw, a 72-year-old pensioner from Bnei Brak won IL500,000.



Savoy Hotel terrorist Musa Hussein Al-Tallaka, left, and three of the sailors accused with him, hear their appeal proceedings yesterday in the Lydda Military Court.

## Clemency asked for Savoy Hotel terrorist

LYDDA. — Both counsel for the defence and the military prosecutor yesterday asked the Military Appeals Court to commute the death sentence imposed on Savoy Hotel terrorist Musa Hussein Al-Tallaka, 24, of Zarka, Jordan, was the only survivor among eight terrorists who landed off the shore of Tel Aviv in March, 1975, and seized hostages inside the Savoy Hotel. The remaining terrorists were

killed by an Israeli unit, which burst into the hotel after a night-long siege. Eight civilians and three soldiers were killed in the terrorist attack.

Four men were later captured aboard a ship at sea which had transported the terrorist group. One of them, Hamed Nadim Ahmed Darwish of Latakia in Syria, received life imprisonment. He was described at the trial as the commander of the operation, though he did not take part in the shore action. The other three sailors, who joined the vessel two days before the operation, received from five to 10 years.

The military prosecutor, in demanding life imprisonment, said that the case was not interested in turning terrorists into martyrs. Until now, he said, death penalties were not carried out in Israel and the policy of the army prosecution was not to request this penalty. (Itim)

massacre, had been sentenced to life imprisonment, said Raffa. He also requested lesser sentences for the four sailors.

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## Wick appointment was a blunder, admits Bar-Lev

By AARON SITTNER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The appointment of ex-Nazi Wolfgang Wick as chairman of the board of Pericase Magnetics Company of Israel was a blunder, Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Bar-Lev admitted in the Knesset yesterday.

But he reminded the House that the appointment, in 1968, was made before he — Bar-Lev — was Minister in charge of the mineral processing firm, which originally was part of Chemicals and Phosphates Ltd., a Government-owned corporation.

Bar-Lev was replying to three urgent motions for the agenda on the controversial Wick appointment — by Hillel Zeidel (ILP), Pinhas Shetman (NRP) and Shmuel Tamir (Free Centre).

A furor arose in the House when Bar-Lev stated that Likud MK Haim Landau had been Minister of Development at the time. "You don't know what you are talking about!" shouted Landau. "I was Minister till the end of 1969. When the appointment of Wick was announced the Minister of Development was Moshe Kol."

Bar-Lev replied that according to the information given him, the appointment of Wick was made during Landau's tenure as Minister. Zeidel, himself a survivor of the Holocaust, said it was incredible that a dyed-in-the-wool Nazi who had drafted a detailed programme for transforming Switzerland into a Nazi state could have been allowed to head an Israeli firm in which the Government is part owner.

He said, "How can we Jews ask Germany and other countries to bear down on Nazi criminals when we ourselves look the other way, as in the case of Wick? How can our authorities say they were unaware of his past — and even welcome him here — when they did in November, when he arrived with an Austrian trade delegation when last February all Israel newspapers disclosed Wick's past?"

At that time, Zeidel, learning of Wick's impending election as head of Rotary International, reported that Wick joined the Austrian Nazi Party at the age of 19. During the Second World War he was a senior official in the German arms industry and towards the end of the war joined the Waffen SS. He also worked towards turning Switzerland to Nazism and recommended that the neutral nation en-



Wolfgang Wick photographed during his visit to Israel last month. (IPPA)

act Nuremberg-type laws against its Jews.

In his motion, Shmuel Tamir charged the Government with failing to arrest Wick when he visited Israel last month. Tamir declared: "We have a law calling for apprehension and trial of Nazis and their collaborators. We utilized that law in the case of Adolf Eichmann. Why wasn't that law enforced with Wick?"

"What cynicism! Our Government claims it speaks in the name of the six million who died at the hands of the Nazis. Well, it appears that money speaks louder than blood, and Wick's investment activities here blinded our Government to his record during those dark days of butchery."

While disclaiming any responsibility for the Wick appointment to head the Pericase board, Bar-Lev admitted that despite the disclosure of Wick's Nazi past in February the Israeli Embassy in Vienna had been consulted before the Austrian Manufacturers Association delegation, which included Wick, left for Israel last month.

"If the backgrounds of foreign investors here are to be checked from now on," Bar-Lev said, "let that checking be done by the State Companies Authority and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (not the Ministry of Commerce and Industry)."

At Bar-Lev's suggestion, and with the agreement of the agenda motion sponsors, the motions were referred to committee.

## French editor comes to court on 2-year-old Gonen libel suit

HAIFA. — The editor-in-chief of "Le Nouvel Observateur" — the French newsmagazine which Aluf (Res.) Shmuel Gonen had sued for libel — yesterday insisted the story which prompted the suit was accurate, and asked the District Court here to reverse its decision awarding Gonen IL250,000.

The editor, the Marquis Hubert de Galard, appeared before the court registrar with an affidavit. He explained that the magazine had received the summons for the court hearing in 1974, but declined to file a defence brief because the entire matter was under investigation by the Agranat Commission at the time.

When the magazine failed to respond to Gonen's charge, the court awarded him IL250,000 in damages. Earlier this year, when the author of the allegedly libellous article, Josette Alia, visited Israel, Gonen

asked the authorities to detain her pending payment of the damages by her journal. Such an order was issued, but travelling under her married name Miss Alia went through boarding procedures at the airport unhampered.

The article which she wrote said that Gonen was allegedly held responsible for the failure of installations on the bank of the Suez Canal to be ignited when the Yom Kippur War broke out in order to halt the crossing by the Egyptian army. It added that Moshe Dayan, then Defence Minister, said on hearing of this failure that Gonen deserved to be shot for it. Gonen was O/C Southern Command at the time.

The Attorney-General has asked the court not to permit evidence to be heard publicly if the case be reopened, if there is risk that it might endanger state security. (Itim)

## Backward village demands change

By KESHAYAHU ASHNI

Jerusalem Post Reporter

SAFAD. — A seven-man committee of young men of Akbara village, three kms. south of here, this week demanded that the Government improve the "sub-human" conditions in their village.

Their representative, lawyer Ahmed Hishel, told *The Jerusalem Post* that Akbara was one of the most backward villages in the country. He said that if action was not forthcoming, they would both appeal to the High Court and demonstrate outside the Knesset.

The demands included the ap-

proval of a plan that would give the village municipal status and the chance to replace tin huts with proper housing; laying of an approach road; installation of electricity and phone services; a regular water supply; a clinic, and public transport to the village.

He noted that most of the 350 Moslem inhabitants, all members of the Hishel clan, settled in the village in 1948, after being evacuated from their original village of Kadita by the army during the War of Independence. The majority in the village are under 40 and demand a chance to build a proper life for themselves at Akbara.

## Two drug pushers nabbed in J'lem

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Jerusalem police narcotics squad this week nabbed two known East Jerusalem drug peddlars, the police spokesman said yesterday.

He said that the first pusher, a 40-year-old man, was caught on Tuesday in Rehov Haroun el-Rashid with a "sole" of hashish. This is about 200 grams, he said.

The second seller, a 30-year-old man, was picked up in the Old City with 12 "fingers" of the drug. The spokesman said that because of recent scarcities, a "finger" that used to measure as much as five grams was now about 2.5 grams.

The spokesman said that from the amount of drugs found, it was obvious that neither man was keeping the hashish for personal use.

## Einstein charged with drug offence

TEL AVIV. — Popular singer Arieh Einstein and his wife Alona were charged in the Magistrate's Court here yesterday with possession of drugs.

The police said they seized a minute quantity of hashish in the couple's apartment, as well as a cigarette-rolling implement with 10 milligrams of hashish in it. Einstein's flat was searched about the same time as singer Shmuel Kraus was arrested on similar charges, in September. His trial is scheduled for the end of January.

In 1972, Einstein was convicted of frequenting a place in which drugs were used, and of possessing drug-smoking utensils. He was acquitted then of possession charges, though the police had claimed they found hashish in his car. (Itim)

## 145,555 arrive through Haifa

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Eighty European tourists, who arrived yesterday morning aboard the Italian liner Achille Lauro for a one-day visit to Jerusalem, were the last tourists of 1976 to pass through Haifa port.

During the year, 145,555 passengers passed through Haifa port, an eight per cent increase over 1975. The majority were cruise passengers for visits of from one to four days.

## El Al sets records

EL AL transported 137,400 passengers across the Atlantic up to November of this year — a growth of 41.7 per cent over 1975. The company's spokesman also announced that the average seat occupancy per plane across the Atlantic was 69 per cent, ranking El Al second out of all 19 airlines with trans-Atlantic routes. (Itim)

## Chief judge in Gaza

The Military Governor of Gaza yesterday appointed Hashem Fahmi al-Husseini as Chief Justice of the city. Al-Husseini, 44, is a member of one of Gaza's wealthiest and most respected families. He received his law degree in Cairo in 1956.

A SMALL CLAIMS court, which was due to open in Tel Aviv in January, will not be activated till February. The court, which will hold hearings in the afternoon, will handle claims of up to IL3,000.

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## ALIGNMENT DEFEATED

(Continued from page one)

ing upon someone to disobey the court's order would be liable to two years' imprisonment.

Members of the opposition bloc were jubilant as they streamed out into the corridors right after the vote. On the other hand, the bleak look on Alignment Members' faces showed concern and disappointment.

"They were caught with their hands down," someone joked. Absent when voting time came were Shimon Peres, Yosef Almog, Dov Zaklin and Eliezer Ronen — all of the Alignment, and Tawfik Zayad of the Communists. Two more members who would have cast their votes with the Alignment on this issue — Arye Eliaz and Marcia Friedman, of the Independent Socialists — were at the President's Residence for formal consultations on forming a new government.

Yesterday's vote, which stumped the Labour-Mapam Alignment, was engineered mainly by Arye Hahn, a young adviser to the NRP faction and former staff member of the Coalition faction at the Knesset.

He told *The Jerusalem Post*: "Our campaign began last week, when we approached the Independent Labour-Mapam Alignment. We were supported by an NRP move for compulsory arbitration. They said they not only would support such a move, but would join in sponsoring it."

"Similar approaches were made to the Likud, and the reply was the same. As a result, four similar private members' bills calling for compulsory settlement of work disputes were filed with Speaker Yeshayahu. However, he balked claiming Knesset rules forbid the re-filing of bills which have already been removed from the agenda previously by majority vote."

The NRP then pointed out that one of the bills had been lying in the Knesset docket for about 18 months, having been introduced by NRP Member Eliezer Avish. Speaker Yeshayahu thereupon consulted with Attorney-General Aharon Barak, who ruled that in view of

this the Speaker could not bar the filing of the bills.

"Once we got the go-ahead for filing, it was only a matter of timing," Hahn said. "I figured that in view of the other legislation scheduled ahead of the arbitration bills, a vote on these bills would be taken at about 1 p.m. As a former staff member of the Coalition, I am familiar with the way the whip rounds up the voters just before voting chime-time."

"I felt Labour Minister Barak, who was replying for the Alignment on the bills, was stalling for time, so that more of his people could arrive for the vote. So I buttonholed all four sponsors of our bills and advised them to forego their five-minute right-of-reply speaking time. This earned us 20 minutes. Also, in the back of my mind I knew that Eliaz and Friedman were on their way back from their meeting with President Ezer."

"As I looked around I saw we had 53 against their 49 right at that moment. So, the word to all our boys was, 'Cut everything as short as possible because the wind is blowing our way right now.' Yes, it was very tense, but the Speaker had no choice but to call for the moment Barak finished his reply. And the vote — 55 for the bills to committee against the Alignment's 52 for removal from the agenda — was a smashing victory any way you look at it."

On Tuesday, the Alignment sought — and failed — to subsume a Likud bill by Moshe Arens which seeks to limit the law-making powers of the Knesset when no quorum is present. That bill, too, was referred to committee.

DETAILS ON National Insurance laws are included in a new 200-page booklet available from the printing department of the Defence Ministry. The booklet outlines procedures on reserve service payments, payments to victims of hostilities, work accident insurance and allowance for children, costs IL25, with VAT.



## A SHABBAT HIGHLIGHT BUFFET LUNCH AT THE DAN HOTELS

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## Two blacks quit Rhodesian cabinet to create new political party

SALISBURY. — Two of Rhodesia's four black cabinet ministers — who were appointed earlier this year by Prime Minister Ian Smith — have resigned in order to head a new political party, the Zimbabwe United Peoples Organisation (ZUPU), it was announced here yesterday.

Chief Jeremiah Chirau and Ka-yisa Ndiweni said in a statement that although they had spent some time close to the white-dominated

government, there were limitations on what they could do for their people in present circumstances. The announcement of their resignations came as Ivor Richard, British chairman of the Geneva talks on Rhodesia's future, flew to southern Africa for a round of shuttle diplomacy aimed at ending a deadlock in the talks. Diplomatic sources said that Richard may hold an early meeting with Smith during his tour.

A spokesman for ZUPU said the new party would be instrumental in bridging the gap between the government and the country's black nationalist groups. He said ZUPU would enjoy the support of most of the country's six million blacks, through the system of the traditional tribal chiefs.

The party was dedicated to black majority rule in the shortest possible time, thus halting "this stupid loss of life" — a reference to the guerrilla warfare, the spokesman said.

The party was supported by about 250 tribal chiefs and 450 village headmen, the spokesman said, adding that the party was assured of "ample financial support from many quarters."

For some time now the government has been trying to persuade "moderate" Africans to participate in attempts to resolve the Rhodesian constitutional dispute. The formation of ZUPU was believed here to have the government's full support.

It was not known whether ZUPU would seek representation at the Geneva talks due to resume on January 17.

Zambia will be the first stop of Richard's tour of six African nations. He expressed the hope on his departure from London that a satisfactory settlement of the Rhodesian problem was in sight.

"I had come to the conclusion at the end of the first part of the Geneva talks that really the only way of producing an agreement was to insert a British neutral presence — somebody who can constitutionally hold the balance between the sides," Richard said.

"But we are quite certain we are not going to run Rhodesia, on a day-to-day basis as though it were a British colony in the traditional sense," he declared.

"But I do feel there are circumstances in which it's a good idea to have an interim commissioner, a quasi governor-general, or whatever you like to call him, to see that neither side can push their ideas too far," he explained. (Reuter, AP)

## Tribal clashes raise S. Africa toll to 112

JOHANNESBURG. — At least 112 blacks have died in factional fighting in South Africa over the Christmas season and more than 200 have been injured, it was reported yesterday.

Three days of fighting in three black townships in Cape Town between migrant workers and militant black youths claimed 26 lives.

In Natal Province in Eastern South Africa, inter-tribal clashes between Xhosa, Zulu, and Ndebele tribesmen left 36 persons dead, police say. Because tribesmen carry their dead and injured away, police are having difficulty establishing the exact extent of casualties.

Authorities didn't say what caused the clashes but black factions in Natal have battled each other in the past because of family feuds, land disputes and other local problems.

Fighting in the Cape Town area erupted Christmas night when young black militants fought migrant workers who refused to participate in a "Black Christmas" boycott of shopping and celebrations. The militants wanted blacks in the area to demonstrate their sympathy with the victims of last summer's anti-government rioting by non-whites throughout South Africa.

The fighting ended on Tuesday, but the townships were reported

still tense. Reinforced police units were patrolling the streets.

In Soweto, the big black township outside Johannesburg, 18 murders, 33 robberies and 25 rapes were reported during the Christmas weekend. In Transkei, a black region that received independence from South Africa on October 26, five persons were killed, 10 were injured and several huts were burned in factional fighting.

Heavy drinking was blamed for most of the holiday disturbances. In another development, a total of 32 people jailed without charges have been released from prison in the past few days. This brought to 113 the number released by police in the past week.

**Alleged Israel spy sentenced to death**

CAIRO. — A man convicted of spying on Egypt for Israel was sentenced to death yesterday by an Egyptian military court, the official Middle East News Agency reported.

The report did not say how or when the condemned man, Sami Tamimi, a Palestinian with Jordanian citizenship, was arrested in October 1973.



President Ford gets a bit of advice on skiing from Suzy Chaffee, a professional free-style skier, before they headed up the mountain at Vail, Colorado, where Ford is spending a two-week vacation. (AP radiophoto)

## Saudi fear of takeovers linked to oil restraint

HAMBURG. — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani says that fears of a Communist takeover in Italy or France figured in his country's decision to keep oil prices down.

Yamani told "Der Spiegel" that economic and political reasons governed Saudi Arabia's decision to increase its prices by 5 per cent, instead of going along with the 15 per cent boost by other OPEC countries.

"We are extremely worried about the economic situation of the West, worried about the possibility of a

new recession, worried about the situation in Britain, Italy, even in France and some other nations. And we do not want another regime coming to power in France or Italy," Yamani said.

Asked whether he meant Communists, he replied "yes," adding: "The situation in Spain is not so healthy either, and the same applies to Portugal."

He continued: "If the economic recovery does not take place, it will not only have political significance for Saudi Arabia, it will hit Saudi Arabia economically." (Reuter)

## British Jews call for action against boycott

By BERNARD JOSEPHS  
Special to The Jerusalem Post

LONDON. — Leaders of British Jewry are calling on the British Government to investigate the activities of Arab boycott officials who, they say, are forcing British firms to discriminate against Jewish workers.

They say they are aware of hundreds of cases in which the careers of Jewish employees have suffered because their companies do not want to offend Middle East customers.

Recent examples include a chemical engineer, who was given a "golden handshake" when his firm started trading with the Arabs; a Jewish financier, who was forced to drop his interest in a merchant bank when the Saudis invested in it; a non-Jewish woman, whose new job with an oil company was withdrawn when it was discovered her husband was Jewish, and a senior architect who was told he could not take part in a project to build prisons in an Arab state.

Dr. Jacob Gewirtz, defence director of the Board of Deputies — Anglo-

Jewry's representative body — said he and the Board's officials were "deeply concerned" at the "Nazilike" nature of the boycott. The boycott regulations with which many British firms with big interests in the Arab world were being forced to comply, were against the spirit of the country's Race Relations Act, he said.

"We want the Government to investigate those firms who are under pressure not to employ Jewish staff. The number of people involved is growing," Gewirtz said.

Gewirtz said he had also received complaints from church leaders, who had been asked by members of their congregations to go to the Middle East on business to sign documents attesting that they were not Jewish.

"We are particularly concerned that the law should forbid the filling in of forms stating that a person is not Jewish or that a firm is not Jewish or that a firm is not against all that Britain's Race Relations Act stands for and are similar to the race laws in Nazi Germany."

## Writers protest Unesco moves

By JACK MAURICE  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

PARIS. — Writers Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir, playwright Eugene Ionesco and other French intellectuals protested here Tuesday against resolutions condemning Israel's archaeological diggings in Jerusalem and Arab education policy at Unesco's General Conference in Nairobi.

They signed a statement issued by the Unesco-Intellectuals Committee of the Association of University Teachers and Research Workers for a Middle East Peace, expressing satisfaction at the

mission of Israel to Unesco's European group.

They added: "However, this decision was taken simultaneously with two severe and unjustified condemnations of Israel. The committee, which in its manifesto of October, 1970, called for respect for the values which Unesco ought to defend, consequently expresses its concern."

GENERAL. — Ivan Belinsky, the Soviet Union's oldest general and a witness to three revolutions, has died at the age of 100, the army newspaper "Red Star" reported.

## 'Hired killer' admits shooting ex-minister

PARIS. — French Interior Minister Michel Poniatowski said yesterday a police inspector organized the assassination of former government Minister Jean de Broglie.

Poniatowski was speaking at a press conference at which he said six men, including the inspector, were arrested in connection with the killing.

The suspects also included two business partners of the 55-year-old prince, who was gunned down in a Paris street on Christmas Eve.

The minister, flanked by senior police officers involved in the murder hunt, said investigators had established that the motive for the crime was a four million franc (12.7m.) loan guaranteed by de Broglie.

The bank loan had been made to Pierre de Varga and Patrick Allet de Kihemont, the two de Broglie business associates named by Poniatowski as among the six people arrested.

The prince, a former secretary of state for foreign affairs, was shot

dead with a bullet in the head, a block of flats where de Varga and de Varga both lived.

The other accused included underworld figures and police officers Guy Simonet.

According to witnesses to the killing, the assassin was a young man dressed in blue jeans, a special, spoke to Prince de Broglie for a few minutes before shooting him.

**3 more sought in Khaddam murder bid**

DAMASCUS. — The Syrian Government offered the equivalent of \$6,000 yesterday for the capture of three men accused of trying to assassinate Foreign Minister Ali Helim Khaddam.

The Government-controlled press published pictures of four Syrians who allegedly attempted to kill Khaddam on December 1. One of the four, identified as Bush Bouri, was arrested Tuesday.

Khaddam was slightly injured in the arm when two men sprayed him with machinegun fire on a Damascus-Belrut highway on the Syrian capital.

According to Syrian police, arrested men admitted that a member of an all-Syrian four-terrorist group acting on order from Iraq.

Relations between Iraq and Syria ruled by rival regimes of the Baath party, have worsened since Syria's intervention in Lebanon's civil war.

## Paris stalls boat sale to Gaddafi

PARIS. — The French government is hesitating over accepting an order from Libya for 10 high-speed missile-launching patrol boats because they might be regarded as "threatening the security of Egypt," the newspaper "Le Monde" reported yesterday.

The boats, similar to the five boats smuggled from France to Israel in 1970, would be equipped with Matra Otomat surface-to-surface missiles and would give Libya a strike capability far from its own borders.

France has sold massive arms supplies to Libya in the past, including 110 supersonic Mirage jet fighters.

## As bad as a mile for a Camel

CAIRO. — Egyptians are standing in line again for Cleopatra cigarettes. The attraction isn't the beautiful queen, but a popular brand of Egyptian cigarettes.

Cleopatra is the top seller among more than 10 locally produced brands, but it is increasingly unavailable.

Smokers line up outside tobacco shops just as consumers at government-run cooperatives do to buy meat and other commodities at supported prices. In many cases, the smokers leave the counters empty-handed.

The general belief is that the consumer is once again the victim of the government's "black market" policy. The shortage of Cleopatra cigarettes is a day, there state-owned Eastern Tobacco Co., is still a shortage.

makers of Cleopatra cigarettes, blames Egypt's new open door economic policy. He says it has flooded the market with imported American and European brands, for which a shopkeeper earns more than Cleopatra. Instead of selling his allotment of Cleopatra cigarettes over the counter, the shopkeeper often peddles them on the black market to earn still more money, according to Khairy.

Tobacco company officials say they have no way of knowing how many people smoke, because many customers buy their cigarettes one at a time from the corner kiosk. But they say that while production of all brands has increased from 45 to 48 million cigarettes a day, there is still a shortage.

## PLO to open Mexico City office during January

By CAROL COOK  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

MEXICO CITY. — The Palestine Liberation Organization will officially open an information office in Mexico City some time in January, according to the local PLO representative, Marwan Tahhub.

Jewish community sources say the office, located near Paseo de la Reforma on the fringes of an area of fashionable shops, offices and restaurants known as the Zona Rosa (Pink Zone), actually has been functioning for some time.

They believe the PLO is responsible for the distribution in recent months of anti-Semitic and anti-Israel pamphlets and folders, and plan to ask for a government investigation.

Tahhub has denied the charge. "There is no truth in this," he said

in a telephone interview, adding that he was "worried" about name being linked with such a paganda.

"Our goal is to get along with the Jews," he said. The charges, said, were "moral blackmail, which is a way to work to the Jewish community's advantage."

Tahhub said Jewish community organizations had published a pamphlet accusing him of "terrorism." This was denied by a common spokesman.

In a front-page interview published Tuesday in the newspaper "Excelsior," Tahhub said he had received a "fabulous" welcome in Mexico and indicated relations between Mexico and the PLO would be closer under the new government of President Jose Lopez Portillo. The PLO was invited to open an office here by former President Luis Echeverre.

## The Old Governing Group Declines

Our best hope — the rise of the Centre

by Shmuel Tamir, M.K.\*

When Mr. Rabin's government came to power two and a half years ago, it described itself as a government of continuation and change. Its fall today is due to the fact that it was a government of continuation only — a continuation of 30 years of Labour Alignment rule and 50 years' domination of the Jewish yishuv.

The leadership has been that of the historical Mapai Party, of the Alignment and partners — even the so-called National Coalition Government, which included Gahal, this too was a Labour Alignment Government. What are the distinguishing features of a Labour Alignment government? They are:

- Lack of political initiative replaced only by reaction and improvisation.
- Economic centralization, which strangles individual initiative, forcing the private sector to become part of a giant machine.
- Party domination of all levels of life, making for government with party rule placed before the good of the State and citizens' rights.

The present Labour Alignment government is reaping the malodorous fruits of all these bad governments which created the rotten basis for today's sad state of affairs — not inappropriate for a government typical of this unfortunate series.

- Complete paralysis of all political initiative, a result of the fact that the government is torn by internal dissension. A government in which Mr. Shertok of Mapam is a partner of Mr. Hammer of the National Religious Party will not make progress in any direction.

- Ever increasing stagnation of the economy, which is based on old, out-moded patterns. Alignment governments have been unwilling to steer away from these patterns, unwilling to take any steps to rehabilitate the economy, for fear of letting the reins of government slip.

- A mounting wave of corruption. Were I a leader of the Labour Alignment or a member of the Government, I would have to ask myself how it has come about that in Kipat Holim, an institution set up with such good intentions, the taint of corruption had reached such dimensions. How has this happened in Shikun Ovdin? How could it happen? How could corruption touch the sporting activities of Hagafot? Why has this scourge spread so widely, in places where values and patterns based on idealism were established so many years ago?

The present government must be judged in the light of a society in which crime and violence are rampant, to the point where the quality of life is affected — life has become almost unbearable for some sections of the population. And in the absence of a leadership able to exert an influence and inspire, the signs of the disintegration of society become daily more obvious.

Open gates — and no immigration. And overshadowing everything, we are confronted by the immigration-emigration picture, the touchstone of Zionism. When we were all fighting for unrestricted immigration to Eretz Yis-

rael, did any of us think we would reach a stage at which the gates were open but almost no one wanted to enter? Did we ever think that the open gates would see such a stream of emigrants — old-timers and newcomers, people born here, people willing to fight and, if necessary, die for Israel, but for some reason now unwilling to live here? We cannot justify their decision. We criticize and condemn them, but we must also ask — why have 300,000 Israelis come to this decision. Is there a better criterion by which to judge a government, a leadership, than the immigration-emigration figures?

No personal matter — the system is a failure

Knesset Member Ben-Zion put the discussion on a personal basis by telling Mr. Rabin that, speaking from his Likud seat, his wish for the Labour Alignment is that they be led in the elections by Mr. Rabin.

It is not my intention to put the discussion on a personal basis. There are those in the Labour Alignment who pray that changes in the Likud leadership are never made — they feel

that this would ensure that the Labour Alignment remain permanently in power. And Mr. Rabin has already said that Mr. Ben-Zion is the Labour Alignment's greatest asset. I recommend to both sides that they abstain from personal insults. Such an approach is not acceptable, even though it has been used by some good people. I am sure there are good and bad in all camps. The test is of the system, not of personalities.

And I would advise the Opposition's spokesman not to snigger or become conceited. Now is not the time for play-acting. The people are greatly troubled, they are greatly disturbed. On one side we have the declining Labour Alignment, which has held the reins for 30 years, and on the other, the Likud, which has proved barren, inadequate and disappointing.

I have heard Mr. Ben-Zion say, "This time we have a chance. During the eight election campaigns and thirty years that Mr. Ben-Zion has headed the Opposition, his hundreds of speeches on the theme "This time" have tended to go in one ear, and out the other."

The Likud talks of corruption in the party scene. And at the very time, presents a perfect negative example — bankruptcy, unacceptable management of public funds — on a scale of tens of millions of pounds.

The danger of despair in the search for peace. Turning now to the foreign

policy field: Mr. Ben-Zion has advised Mr. Rabin to delay going to Washington, because he no longer has a mandate for such a trip. There seems to me to be much sense in this. Mr. Rabin is not authorized to speak on behalf of the country, while heading a minority government — while we are four or five months away from an election. But with Mr. Ben-Zion's unequivocal "noes," eternal, and unchanging, accompanied by any "yeses" or positive suggestions, is this what he would like to do? Would he be elected to power? Would he have anything to say to President Carter? Did he even have any suggestions to make to Israel's friend Jackson — other than "no, no, no," never "yes"?

Policy is not like a prayer book — unchanging. Policy must be based on actuality. It must be realistically related to changing conditions. A correct decision today may not be correct tomorrow. What is incorrect tomorrow, may be correct at some later period. But your ideological basis, your principles, must be constant. In the dynamic world in which we live, different initiatives are necessary at different times. Those who do not accept this are not fit to conduct the affairs of state.

Mr. Ben-Zion says: "Sadat is not even ready to go back to the June 4 lines. I will therefore be the last to believe anything he says."

While I advise a cautious approach to anything put out over the Cairo, Amman or Damascus radio networks, this does not mean we should make much of every negative pronouncement and rejoice over it. It does not mean we should overlook the crack that could possibly lead to peace. Maybe there is something we can grab hold of, and progress from there towards peace. What prospects can be offered on a basis of "no, no, no," with never a "yes"? Should we give up hope of peace and say: "Well live by the sword, under siege, till the end of days, since there are no prospects of peace?"

Hope concentrated on the rejuvenated centre

The old order is sinking. The old order, which held power with two hands — the hand of failure and misguided actions, and the hand that sleeps in times of national emergencies — is finished. Every honest observer will admit that attention in the coming elections will be concentrated on the rejuvenated centre. The attention of the entire public, the interest of the whole country, the hope of all voters will be focused on the possibility of the renaissance centre replacing the old powers which are sinking on left and right. This is the only chance of rescuing Israel from the consequences of the sins of the Government and the inadequacy of the Opposition.

It is good that the Government has fallen, good that this Knesset will soon be dissolved. The country now has the chance of forming a centre that will be a nationwide basis, a centre that will be realistic in foreign and economic policies, that will enable Israel society to embark on a new and well charted course.

Knesset speech following the resignation of the Government. Presented by the Free Centre.

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# His ear to the world

One of the names most familiar to Israelis must be that of Michael Gurdus, the man who monitors foreign broadcasts for Israel Broadcasting. Veteran newsman ERIC GOTTGETREU tells the story behind the name.

IT WAS in Berlin, in 1930 — or perhaps 1931.

I was working at the time with the Social Democratic Press Agency. One evening, the phone rang and a voice, speaking in a foreign accent, offered a "special service." The caller introduced himself as Nathan Gurdus, and said he was an expert in monitoring foreign radio stations.

In those days radio had not yet been generally recognized as a news provider and neither government institutions nor editorial offices paid much attention to broadcast reports or comments. Gurdus offered as an inducement the fact that he had a nose "for picking out the best of the bunch" and I thought it worth while to try him out.

I never regretted the decision. Several times a week he sent me by messenger a number of interesting stories which had not been carried by the news agencies and which he had fished from the air — usually from distant radio stations which nobody in Germany cared to listen to. He had several more clients at the time for these items — political and non-political.

One day, I phoned Gurdus and invited him to come to see me at the office. After all, it is always good for the man at the desk to have some personal contact with his contributors. Surprisingly, Gurdus hedged; he said it was physically most difficult for him to move around. It was only then that I learned that he had lost his legs and was wholly dependent on a wheelchair. In fact, it was obviously this physical incapacity which had induced him to become a listening reporter.

In 1933 our cooperation came to a natural end when our paths

separated. With the rise of Hitler, I moved to Palestine immediately. He, somewhat protected by his Polish passport, returned to his native Warsaw, where he worked for a couple of years as a correspondent for the London "Daily Express." He phoned his stories daily — among them quite a few East-European and Soviet scoops which he got by monitoring. The "Daily Express" did not forget him and his scoops: When in 1939 the German Army overran Poland, it was the paper's star reporter Stefan Delmer who, together with his friend Ted de Pury, tried to take Nathan Gurdus and his beautiful young wife Irka in his car from Warsaw to Bucharest.

"By a hair's breadth," Delmer wrote later in his memoirs "The Germans and I" (which I quote on the basis of the German edition) — we almost failed to get Gurdus across the Rumanian border as the Polish police insisted on a physician's written confirmation that he was physically unfit for any military service. Only then it would be possible to give him an exit visa. To obtain such a certificate Delmer and de Pury dragged poor Nat to no less than five Polish army doctors. The first four flatly declined. The fourth even added: "Way do you want to escape, you Jewish swine? You stay and do your duty as a Pole. You can still lie on your stomach and fire a machinegun — no, I won't give you a certificate." The fifth physician was ready — for a generous fee — to certify Gurdus' incapacity. Delmer concluded: "Tedy, Nat and Irka live happily with their healthy son Micky in Tel Aviv."

Once in Tel Aviv, it did not take Nathan Gurdus long to find his way

back into the work he loved so much. Here, too, he was a most reliable monitor. At first he specialized not so much in news from foreign radio stations as in the broadcasts of the illegal stations of the Hagannah, Irgun Zvai and Lechi. At the time their secret broadcasts on Jewish resistance in Palestine made international news, and Gurdus' excerpts usually reached the foreign correspondents much faster than the subsequent releases of the underground "press officers."

However, monitoring was not Gurdus' sole journalistic activity. He attended press briefings in his wheelchair. He wrote articles for "Yedioth Aharanot," and was the first to introduce a telephone interview for that paper. One morning in the early fifties he had the idea of phoning Chancellor Adenauer at his home near Bonn and got from him an excellent story on his hopes for better German-Israeli relations. When Gurdus telephoned for calling him at six in the morning, since he served an evening paper which "goes to bed early," the "Old Man" replied: "What do you mean? I have been up and about since five."

Gurdus also worked for the foreign press — first as a Tel Aviv stringer for the Associated Press correspondent in Jerusalem, later for the Agence France Presse man in Jerusalem and finally as chief Israel correspondent for AFP. When he died in October 1972, Israel's journalistic community lost one of its best professionals and his colleagues, Delmer's friend, and a man whose loyalty they missed no less than his sense of humor and often sarcastic wit.

However, his monitor's seat did not remain empty.



Carrying on his father's tradition, Michael Gurdus monitors a broadcast. (S. Segal)

His "art of listening" and retelling the story has been brilliantly inherited by his son Micky. And today, for Israel Radio — for which he works exclusively — and its listeners, the name "Michael Gurdus" is a trademark like AP, UPI, Reuters and AFP.

Day in and day out, Michael Gurdus gets news from the ether which the agencies do not and cannot carry. He has followed the doings of terrorist sky-jackers; he monitored dozens of stations during the Yom Kippur War and during the Cyprus fighting when he was one of the few people outside the island who was able to follow and record all the pronouncements from the various Greek, Turkish and British sides. He got them all and recorded them all. If he does not relay the original sound, he transmits to the broadcasting station in Jerusalem the gist of all his recordings — conscientiously, correctly, as he learned it from his father, in the best traditions of the journalistic profession.

## Winners in chess

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

SHARING first prize in the women's international chess tournament in Holland this month brought Alla Kushnir — Israel's only female international grandmaster — more than a gold medal and \$7,300 in cash. The victory earned her a place on the Prime Minister and the Absorption and Education Ministers, plus a lunch in the Knesset.

The petite, soft-spoken champion was the centre of attention at receptions last Tuesday for the country's top chessplayers, their trainers and officials of the Israel Chess Federation.

"The contestants from Communist countries were not pleasant," said the Russian-born champion. "The Russian-born champion is economically of her opponents at the competition in the Netherlands as she sat in the Prime Minister's conference room. Her husband, banker Marcel Stein, added that he had rarely seen such vicious anti-Israel propaganda in Holland as during the tense chess meet.

When Premier Rabin, reputed to dabble in chess occasionally, asked Kushnir, Ljuba Kristol (former Leningrad champion) and Olga Podrajanskaya what help the Soviets give their top chessplayers, they said in a chorus: "A great deal." A good Russian player — even a child — receives a stipend "equal to an engineer's salary" as he perfects his game. Russian chess



The three top women chess players in Israel, Olga Podrajanskaya (left), Ljuba Kristol (centre) and Alla Kushnir, photographed on Tuesday during a visit to the office of Education Minister Aharon Yadin. (K. Weiss)

star Boris Spassky received such a grant from the age of nine.

Elihu Levant, who "captained" the local women's team at last month's Haifa Olympiad, maintained that young Israelis have an even better potential than Soviet children. "But only if they work hard at it."

"We can all do better if only we work hard at it," grinned the Prime Minister.

Earlier in the day, at the Education Ministry, the beneficial aspects of chess were listed by Minister Aharon Yadin (who told *The Jerusalem Post* last that he has played on and off since before his Bar Mitzva). Chess, he said, sharpens the mind, increases concentration, fills leisure time profitably, helps you think ahead and gives you the feeling of attaining results after every game.

But when Yadin asked the chess champions what is needed to promote the game in Israel, Kushnir

stated quietly: "We need more money. So far all we have had is talk." She added that coverage of chess in the local media is "inadequate and boring" and doesn't attract enough young people.

Adi Yaffe, MK, chairman of Israel's Chess Federation, said chess should become an accepted activity in schools and a natural pastime for many more children. Israel's rise to the pinnacle of the chess world — with only champions left to beat — will create the need for more money. "The higher we get," he explained, "the more players we'll want to send to competitions abroad and the more trainers we'll need."

Kushnir, one of eight semi-finalists in the women's competition, is to meet a competitor in the spring. If she wins, she will go on to the finals in the autumn and then meet the top women's champion, Nona Gaprindashvili of Soviet Georgia, at the end of next year.

FIGURE IT OUT / Jodie Oron

## Cut-rate exercise at the health club

HEALTH CLUBS are the fashion in the United States, and they are not expensive.

The rates at my temporary local club — in Charlottesville, Va. — run to \$95 annually. During December, a one-month membership has been offered for \$15. You may use the facilities day or night, six days a week. Who could resist?

The facilities are certainly impressive. Red pile carpets. Equipment galore — including, every machine ever invented to melt that too, too solid flesh. Massage room. Sauna. Steam room. Two kinds of showers — one's a massage, ("why just turn on the shower, when the shower can turn you on," so sings the ad). Even a special room with sun lamps from floor to ceiling on three walls ("for that all-over tan").

Patsy Marshall, a grey-haired, 60-year-old ex-fattie, gives exercise classes three times a day. Each class runs for a full hour.

Now although the price of roughly \$1.70 per month is cheap if you take a lesson every day, this palace of

beauty is almost always empty. Few of the members show up more than once a week for classes. And there is no queue for the machines. "You really can't blame them," Patsy Marshall says in their defence. "It takes more than two hours a day to go through the routine, and who has that much time?"

Even if you had the time, who'd have the energy? The exercise class, which Patsy runs through easily, gossiping throughout ("how can she breathe, let alone talk?" someone near me muttered), is not merely strenuous. It is downright painful. And there are no breaks. I suppose one could stop to catch one's breath occasionally. But it doesn't happen much.

It's not that the people are in such good shape — I think that they're just too scared to admit how "unfit" they are. They certainly don't look very cheerful once the class is over. It takes, in my experience, about an hour of showering, sauna-ing, etc., to

begin feeling half-way energetic enough to go out the door.

Most of the fitness or health clubs across the U.S.A. and Canada are equally luxurious and efficient. Yet, of those who pay the yearly membership fees, less than 20 per cent use their facilities regularly, according to a recently-published article in the "Financial Times of Canada." Even fewer remain members for more than one year. How do these clubs survive?

"Well," says Patsy, "I think they trade on hope. They see me, an ex-fattie, (down to 45 kilo) and they believe that by merely spending time here the same will happen to them. Once they begin to work up a sweat, and spend endless hours working out here, their enthusiasm begins to decline."

Well, mine hasn't — yet. Being somewhat of an exercise maniac, I'm still in there, groaning and huffing every morning. Being something of a scrooge as well, I'm certainly not going to give up until I've sweated out my full \$15 worth.

## Honouring Ya'acov Herzog

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A PSYCHIATRIC Research Division is to be named in memory of the late Dr. Ya'acov Herzog by the Jerusalem Health Centre Ezerath Nashim next week. Dr. Herzog was at one time Director General of the Prime Minister's Office and also served as Israeli Ambassador to Canada. His historic debate on Zionism with Dr. Arnold Toynbee was one of his most widely-known achievements.

Ezerath Nashim, which maintains a 160-bed-hospital and two community-based clinics in Jerusalem, pioneered psychiatric care in Israel and has been particularly concerned with disturbed children. Now, in response to an appeal from the Government, it is entering new fields of rehabilitation and intervention in drug misuse.



Dr. Ya'acov Herzog

The organization's second annual dinner is to be held at the Jerusalem Hilton on January 6. Invitations are available for persons making a minimum \$1,000 contribution to Ezerath Nashim funds.

MUSIC / Yohanan Boehm

## Fascinating marathon

CHRISTMAS MARATHON — presented by the Ministry of Tourism and the Jerusalem Theatre (December 25).

A MONUMENTAL programme lasting almost six hours brought together all the groups visiting Israel for the Christmas Season. It was an impressive parade of orchestras and choirs from five countries, mostly non-professionals though their presentations were often of very high standard, and the difference of national cultural characteristics made fascinating listening from beginning to end.

England's Essex Youth Symphony Orchestra of nearly 100 players offered a rousing Christmas carol with Walton's "Portsmouth Point" Overture, and Beth Spendlove was the soloist in a Bach Violin Concerto.

The Australian "Green Valley Angels" children's choir provided contrast with "Hava Nagila," "Waiting Mathilda" and "Jerusalem of Gold," side by side with Christmas carols. In simple settings, pleasant sonorities, and with individual soloists adding colour to the singing, this group simply demonstrated what music activities can do for society (I was told that the Australian Beni Brith supports this group from deprived neighbourhoods in Sydney).

A 30 strong choir from Pretoria immediately struck a chord of professionalism: the seven songs were rendered in lovely sound, perfect balance, and exuded a quality of deep culture made every song a pure pleasure.

South Africa was further extremely well represented by Betty Pack's various instrumental ensembles which we have had occasion to admire on previous occasions. The Junior orchestra played during the interval in the lobby, and seeing from close quarters how earnestly the youngsters attended to their parts, increased our respect for Miss Pack's educational ability. The Senior Orchestra then performed in the hall

two of the Four Seasons by Vivaldi, with leader Allan Salomon as soloist in a highly admirable rendition. Yet another ensemble played Lully and Grieg in beautifully rich sound and fine musical interpretation, and the inexhaustible Miss Pack presented still another of her groups, 18 cells, for a Bach Prelude and Fugue (in B-flat minor), which called forth from musicians and educators present both awe and whole-hearted admiration for her marvellous, inspiring personality and leadership.

The Presbyterian College Choir from South Carolina presented seven songs in mostly ecclesiastical style, more suitable for community activities than concert performance, but also demonstrating the good work being done in musical education in America.

"Mikturen," from Sweden, is a delightful small group (only 15 including the conductor) who doubles as singers, dancers all but inspired by a fresh and natural approach. As I had heard them at the Targ Music Centre in Eilat Karem two days before, I would give them a special prize for their beautiful selections, their clear voices, their esprit de corps, which made every song a musical gem in a lovely setting.

The international finale to this monumental night came with the "Messiah," presented by an imposing number of inter-collegiate choristers from the south-west of the United States. Melva Jo Lea, soprano; Hildegard Stanley, mezzo-soprano; Gary Sims, tenor; David Solomon, baritone, were the soloists, with the baritone notable for a rich and most pleasant voice. Mr. Abston, from Dallas, Texas, was in charge of the whole assembly and directed forcefully and authoritatively. The performance so impressed the capacity audience that the "Hallelujah" chorus had to be repeated.

The idea of such a "Christmas Marathon" is very attractive and might well become a tradition.

## Kippot and keffiyehs

By KINUR WEINSTEIN  
Special to The Jerusalem Post

CHILDREN'S LAUGHTER and cheers rang out in Hebrew and Arabic at Jerusalem's Tzavta theatre last Friday afternoon. The youngsters and their mothers had come from both East and West Jerusalem to watch a performance by the Gypsies, a group of Arab and Jewish entertainers.

An audience of about 200, mostly children aged three to 10, shared an afternoon of fun. Both kippot and keffiyehs could be seen interspersed among the spectators.

The show consisted of a series of sketches, short enough to hold the children's attention, which always ended on a happy note with singing and dancing. The performance was bilingual, so that everyone could follow.

As in their previous shows, the Gypsies again succeeded in involving the children actively in the sketches. The Arab children danced when Hebrew songs were sung, while the Jewish children clapped

their hands to the tunes of the Arab songs.

The idea for inviting the mixed audience came from Slave Solomon, director of the Tzavta Club and Kinur Haas, who founded the Gypsies in the hope of promoting Arab-Jewish understanding. Until now, however, they have always performed in front of separate audiences, such as kibbutzim and Arab villages.

Samir Chorey, of the youth centre in East Jerusalem, organized a group of children from the Spafford playground in the Old City. The project was financed by the Jerusalem Foundation.

As one mother commented after the play: "This experience of Jews and Arabs getting together has meant that I have now seen the potential for real peace. We must continue bringing Arab and Jewish children together so that they can learn to live together in peace." The performance ended with everyone singing *Havenu Shalom Aleichem* — in Hebrew and Arabic.

## THE ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

### Notice to Subscribers

Payment of the second instalment on subscriptions in Haifa is due between Sunday, 2.1.77 and Friday, 14.1.77.

### In Tel Aviv and Jerusalem

payment of the second instalment on subscriptions may be made until Friday, 7.1.77 only.

## BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

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Hapoel Tel Aviv  
Ramat Gan All Stars  
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Double Header Each Night

Tickets available at Hadran, Tel. 248787, and the box office.



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 30—January 9

### JERUSALEM REGION

Sunday, January 2 — Lecture by Charlotte Jacobson (call Tel. 02-3633) for details of time and venue)  
Monday, January 3, 12 noon — 4.30 p.m. BLOOD DONOR DAY: Moudon Ha'uleh.  
Monday, January 10, 4.00 p.m. — Seniors: "The Golden Liquid Waters." Lecture by Israel Reichman, Engineer from Ministry of Health, Moudon Ha'uleh.

### NETANYA REGION

Monday, January 2, 8.00 p.m. — Public Lecture: "Foreign Currency in Israel" by representative from Bank Hapoalim, 9 Rehov Shalom Saniat.  
Wednesday, January 5 — Trip to Jerusalem, visit to Knesset, to be preceded by The Speaker, Yisrael Yashayahu (call Tel. 03-3633) for details.

### TEL AVIV REGION

Wednesday, January 5, 7.00 p.m. — Meeting at Beit Hamin, 31 Rehov Weizmann. Film from 12 International Jewish Film and T.V. Festival — "Pourquoi Israël?"  
Thursday, January 6, 8.30 p.m. — Shulamit Aloni speaks on "From Immigrant to Citizen" Beit Haseudim (lehdin Kupat Rolim, Rehov Ben-Gurion).  
Saturday, January 8, 8.00 p.m. — Slide show "The World of Rembrandt" with commentary by Hanna Einymina, Ashkelon Rembrandt Club.

Telegram to  
His Excellency  
Anwar el-Sadat  
President of Egypt

December 23, 1976

Dear Mr. President,

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health.

This is not the first or the last attempt that I have made to reach out to you, the President of Egypt. For the past twelve years, I have been, as a concerned citizen living in the Middle East, deeply involved in trying to search for a way to promote better understanding between the people of Israel and her Arab neighbours.

I have made several attempts to try to break the barriers between our peoples. In my own way and with the support of many concerned citizens in this region and other parts of the world, I have made these attempts and will continue to do so until the time comes when our peoples can learn to reason with each other.

Your country is not foreign to me. On three occasions I have flown into your territory by air. On June 5, 1975, I made a fourth attempt with the Peace Ship to enter Port Said to be among the first to transit the Suez Canal. It was painful to watch the ships of war that belong to nations that had bombed the canal in 1956 being allowed to enter while we waited several days and were refused entrance.

In October 1975, we made the fifth attempt with the Peace Ship and entered Port Said again, with a cargo of 100,000 flowers — a gift expressing the desire for peace from the people of Israel to the people of Egypt.

Once again, we were refused entry. However, throughout this period we have continued in spite of all obstacles to broadcast our message of peace and goodwill to the peoples of the Eastern Mediterranean.

Now, with eighteen volunteers from many parts of the world, the Peace Ship will try to make one more attempt to transit the Suez Canal — our only cargo being goodwill. We will attempt this on January 1, 1977, to herald what we hope will be a new era of peace in the new year.

Our decision to make this transit on this day was mainly motivated by what we consider your genuine and honest proclamations for peace in recent months. We believe that your pronouncements, and those who have welcomed these pronouncements in Israel have helped to create a better climate throughout this region. We believe that more than any other time in the past the desire for peace is felt in the hearts of people throughout Israel and in the Arab world, and this movement of feeling must not be stopped.

Our radio station, which has a potential audience of 30 million people throughout the Middle East, will continue to promote the message of peace through dialogue, because if this tendency were stopped or slowed down, once again this area would be flooded with more and more sophisticated weapons of death in the form of planes and missiles that could destroy not only this region, but engulf the whole world.

We do not believe that peace will come as a result of our ship transiting the canal, but by being able to do so and continuing to broadcast our message all the way to the port of Akaba, Eilat and during the return, we could help to give hope to those who doubt, and give strength to those who believe that we can all live together again in this region, as we did in the past.

Our Dutch-built ship flies a Panamanian flag, and while our crew hold British, American, Dutch, Filipino and French passports, we all have one thing in common — we are men of peace.

We hope, Mr. President, that this time, as we knock on your doors once again, we shall find them open, allowing us to continue on our voyage for peace.

With Peace and Friendship,  
ABE NATHAN

*Abraham Nathan*

# THE VOICE OF PEACE

SOMEWHERE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Khz 1540











THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1976 • VOL. XLVI, No. 13399

## SYRIA AND ITS JEWS

AN OFFICIAL of the Syrian embassy in London, queried this week about the reported lifting of the long-standing, draconian restrictions on Jews in his country, is said to have dismissed the story as Zionist propaganda. He knew nothing, the official stated, of any persecution of Jews in Syria.

That, of course, has been the typical line of the Syrian authorities on the subject of their brutality to the Jews. Some people in the West, who should have known better, fell for it. A notorious example was an article in the U.S. "National Geographic Magazine," published back in April, 1974, which claimed that Syrian Jews had rights like all other citizens, and that these included "freedom of worship and freedom of opportunity."

But truth will out. And so has the truth about Syria's 4,500 Jews, remnants of a once-thriving community, for the past several years couped up in the three ghettos of Damascus, Aleppo and Hama, in conditions of grinding poverty, oppression and degradation.

Slowly, but surely, the free world was finding out that these Jews, apart from being often harassed to death by the secret police and regularly terrorized by Palestinian gangs, were not allowed to communicate by mail or phone, to stray farther than four kilometres from their homes, to work for the government, to sell their homes, to borrow money from banks, or to bequeath their property (which upon their death went to either the Government or the Palestinians).

All this was steadfastly denied by the Syrian authorities. The only limitation openly admitted, and heatedly defended, was the ban on the emigration of the Jews.

The publication of the facts about Syrian Jewry has largely been the work of the International Committee for the Rescue of Jews in the Middle East, headed by Alain Poirer, President of the French Senate. It was also largely due to the pressure generated by this group, which has branches all over the free world, that the autocrats in Damascus two years ago began to relax slightly some of the restrictions on Syrian Jews.

Quiet diplomatic intercession by the U.S. and French governments, too, was helpful. But neither private nor official efforts would have been effective were it not for Syria's growing desire, especially since the Yom Kippur War, to mend fences with the West.

The most radical step taken in that direction was a recent decision to remove the existing prohibitions — which for the most part were supposed never to have existed. This was announced to the leaders of Syrian Jewry at a meeting to which they were summoned several weeks ago.

The purpose, according to the Kuwaiti newspaper "Al-Kahar," which first revealed the decision, was to "rebut" Israel charges of the mistreatment of Syrian Jews, and in this way to aid the combined Syrian-Egyptian "peace offensive."

Whatever its purpose, the move, now officially confirmed in Damascus, is to be welcomed. If by coming out as self-confessed liars the Syrians believe they can improve their image in the West, there is no need to begrudge it to them. What still has to be verified, however, is whether the new policy is in fact being implemented — and, most important, whether it includes the right to emigration.

It is by no means certain that it does. More likely it spells a limited right to travel abroad, especially for medical reasons, on condition of eventual return. Yet there can be no question that most Syrian Jews would leave their native, but oppressor, country if permitted to do so. Quite a number of them have imperilled their lives in an effort to get out.

Where they wish to go, whether to Israel or to some South American country in which they have relatives, is their own concern. The issue is not aliyah, nor surely the military reinforcement of Israel, as the Syrians have absurdly contended. The issue is exodus — the rescue of Jews.

In recent years both Egypt and Iraq have let their few remaining Jews go, in response to insistent urgings by an aroused world public opinion. It is high time Syria emulated their example.

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter  
CONFESSION of an aliyah emissary:  
"I was theoretically a bad candidate for my job. I had never been in the U.S.; my English wasn't so good; and I had no professional background in immigration and absorption."

But despite all the clamour about "unqualified" aliyah emissaries, Yehiel Leket, who, as director of the Israel Aliyah Centre in New York, is chief of all 23 aliyah emissaries in North America — isn't embarrassed by his confession. "Many people," he reports, "matter-of-factly," have said that I'm doing a good job."

Although working experience with olim and a facility in English are important for a man in his position, political acumen is also necessary. "The relationship between the World Zionist Organization in Israel on the one hand, and the Jewish organizations and federations and the Zionist establishment in America, on the other, depends largely on an understanding of Israel's realities."

Leket, 35, became a public relations officer at the Labour Ministry after studying political science and philosophy at the Hebrew University. He went on to become spokesman for the Education Ministry. As chairman of young leadership in the Labour Party, he was an unsuccessful candidate for the Knesset and a delegate to the last Zionist Congress. The late Jewish Agency Executive chairman, Pinhas Sapir, with whom Leket had sometimes been at odds, promoted him to the Aliyah Centre directorship.

After some 18 months in the job, Leket draws a gloomy picture of the state of Western aliyah. (He is currently on home leave to visit absorption centres, universities and immigrant settlements, and to confer with various officials; he will finish his tour of duty in August.) He points out that only about 3,000 olim have come in the past year from the U.S. and Canada — an average of about 100 per aliyah shaliach (and some olim come without any prompting or help from the Aliyah Centre offices).

Leket is aware that the word

## Taking aliyah seriously

"shaliach" has become almost a "dirty word" among potential immigrants. "The Aliyah Centre's image has been very bad," he concedes. "Many people just don't believe what we tell them."

INTRODUCING an aesthetic — albeit minor — improvement, Leket ordered that drab shaliach offices be refurbished with comfortable easy chairs for people waiting in line.

He also sent each local office standard checklists that are given to the prospective olim at his first meeting with the emissary. The list helps him to know what questions to ask and what requirements to complete — from the moment he makes the decision on aliyah until the time he arrives at the airport with packed bags.

The WZO Comptroller, in his most recent report, found serious shortcomings in the Aliyah Centre's operations when it was run by two of Leket's predecessors, Yehoram Amitai and Yehoshua Yadin, in 1974/5.

The Comptroller urged that whatever promises are made by emissaries about immigrants' privileges, upbringing, housing and jobs, they should be written down and fulfilled. Leket agrees. "It must become a general rule that if a shaliach commits himself in writing — even if he makes a mistake — the Jewish Agency and other authorities must fulfill the promise when the olim arrives in Israel."

Each of the aliyah emissaries under Leket is saddled with tremendous responsibilities: greeting candidates and conducting interviews; maintaining links with absorption authorities in Israel; getting the offer into the public eye by contacting the local media; meeting with local rabbis and organizational leaders; and processing mountains of paper work.

(Shlichim are not very well paid, says Leket. He himself receives a salary of \$20,000 a year, which includes housing and entertainment expenses. This is only a moderate



Yehiel Leket (U. Kerem)

amount by New York standards, and below that of Israeli consular officials of the same rank.)

Some people have suggested that all shlichim should be brought home, that the number of olim they send to Israel is not worth the expense of operations. Prospective immigrants could fill out the proper forms, they contend, at Israeli embassies.

Leket agrees that it would be possible to hand over the task of processing forms to immigration officials at the consulates. But their job would be reduced to only that. Encouragement of immigration to another country by representatives of any foreign government is prohibited by U.S. law. A prerequisite of such an arrangement would be that other persons be recruited to promote aliyah in the various communities. These could be Israeli emissaries (both short- and long-term), heads of aliyah desks in Jewish organizations, or anyone

else who understands Israel and knows how it feels to be an olim.

"THE PROMOTERS must kindle the light, provide encouragement and reinforcement when the potential olim has doubts, and give up-to-date and accurate information about employment, housing and other conditions. Such people must realize that unsuccessful absorption and return to the Diaspora can scar an individual for years."

Leket supports the idea of short-term emissaries (in addition to those who are sent for two-year terms) who, having been immigrants themselves, go abroad for a month to speak to motivated Jews on an individual or personal level. Such a programme, funded by the WZO and operated by the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel, was recently discontinued by WZO Executive chairman, Yosef Almog. Almog says he would rather see aliyah promoted by local Jewish federations and organizations.

"There is nothing more effective," says Leket, "than an olim who strongly identifies with and believes in Zionism talking to someone who is considering aliyah."

Leket maintains that the leaders of the local Jewish federations and welfare organizations are unlikely to promote aliyah. True, the 250 federations around the U.S. perform valuable functions. They collect funds from the Jewish community and run a whole gamut of cultural, social, health and educational facilities and services. Most of their leaders are businessmen and professionals. In every community, an allocation committee made up of such influential people to decide how much will be spent on local needs, and how much will be transferred to the U.S. and Israel. But the idea of aliyah is very far from their minds.

"The federation leaders don't want to go to Israel. They don't want their children to go, and they see the

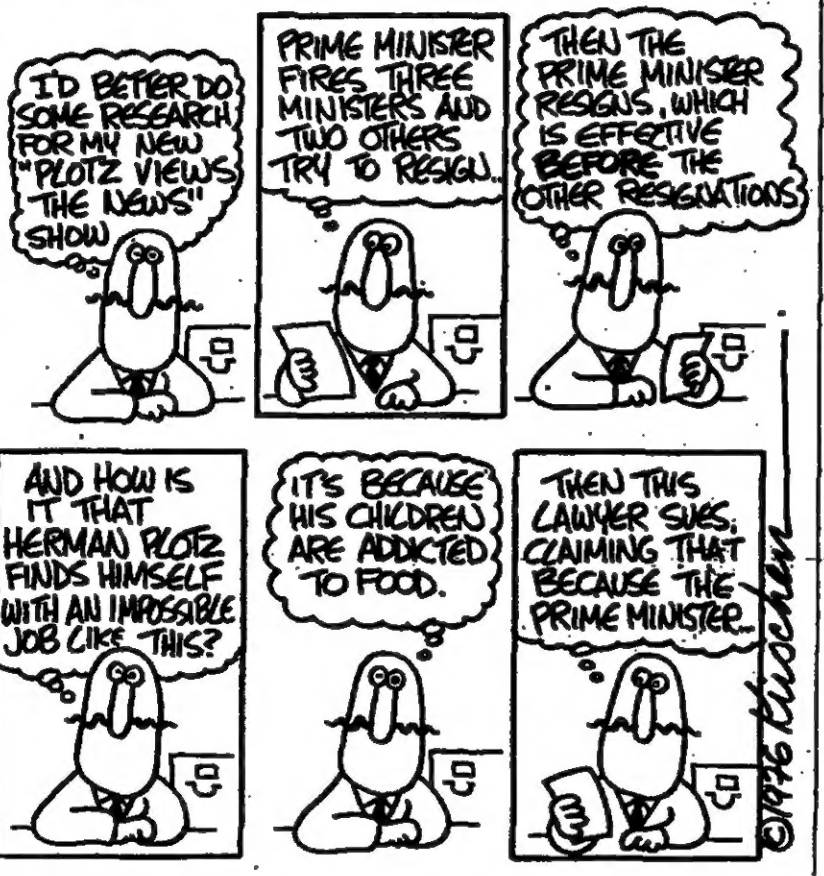
Diaspora as important in the plane equal with Israel. There is, however, some Jewish organization promoting aliyah. A number of the Conservatives, the B'nai B'rith and others already set up aliyah desks. B'nai B'rith's credibility is than ours; when they members interested in aliyah can be referred to the shlichim offices."

"But," says Leket, "if I think that after a year an American Jewish community suddenly go crazy about aliyah, it is a long process of education and motivation, and taken seriously, there is some hope."

LEKET criticizes some "leading Zionist Executive" and "officials" who, when they visit U.S., give the impression that they don't take aliyah, or its potential seriously. "But an enormous development is that WZO youth chochulot department, Mordechai Bar-On, has been to help Jewish organizations in deals for aliyah and voluntary in Israel."

Disagreeing with the current trend, Leket says that "emissaries should not be chosen according to public tender. About the most qualified he found in the U.S. was a young man, Yosef Almog, who is a member of the Government and Agency. He should form a team to find the most qualified candidates. Then, must pressure the candidates to tell them that they have to sacrifice their own interests for the good of the State of Israel." The director of the Aliyah Centre should also have a role in the selection, since he has to with the emissaries and understand their needs. Leket prefers "for immigrants who have strong roots in Israel, or veteran Israelis. American experience, people who have a good command of English, and a belief in aliyah in their hearts."

## Dry Bones



## POSTSCRIPTS

VETERAN "Observer" correspondent, Patrick O'Donovan (whom many Israelis remember from the time when he was posted here in the early days of the State) thinks that commercialization has gone hand-in-hand with religion throughout the ages. "Even the mediaeval shrines of Europe sold souvenirs, the most common being little lead badges to be set in the pilgrim's hat as a sign that he had done his duty," he writes.

After commenting on the "artistic desolation" of Lourdes, he goes on to talk about Jerusalem. "It is a marvellous mediaeval walled city, tilted on the side of a slope, lying in a cup of hills that are the colour of old brown bones. Inside the walls, there is an ancient and battered city which makes a marvellous whole... Through the city there runs a steep and narrow and overhung unforgettable street... It is called the Via Dolorosa."

"Among the alarming butchers' shops and cheap haberdasheries... there are the pretty shops kept by Christian Arabs of varied denominations. They specialise in carved wood crucifixes which they say are made of wood from the Mount of Olives, rosaries of olive pits from the same place, dreadful little boxes and all this uppers leading, eventually, to the appalling vulgarity of the little house-shrine that Imperial Russia built over the Holy Sepulchre."

O'Donovan goes on to note that Rome is not immune from commercialization either. "But standards tend to be higher and the rosaries heavier." And, he says, "even the great Anglican cathedrals (in England) have stalls at the back of their buildings. They sell things of such impeccable good taste that one almost longs for the vulgarity of Lourdes."

THE LATEST in automation in America is a flag-pole which raises and lowers the flag without being touched by human hand, AP reports. Installed at the Baltimore Courthouse, the flagpole is triggered by sunlight. When the sun rises in the morning, "Old Glory" goes up by itself; the sun sets, the flag lowers itself. It can also be raised to half-mast when this mark of mourning is necessary.

Not everyone is happy with the new invention. The Maryland State Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars says: "The flag is supposed to be folded with respect, raised with respect and treated with respect, not sucked into a hole in a crumpled manner."

## READERS' LETTERS

### WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION ELECTIONS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir — The Israeli press seems to be jubilant because the Zionist tribunal has ordered elections for the Zionist movement. The decision is regarded as a victory for democracy, and certainly elections are at the heart of any democratic political system. What the Israeli press has failed to report, in fact it seems totally disinterested, is some of the negative impact elections will have in the United States.

American Jews, with the exception of the professional Zionists, do not view Zionism as a political system, but primarily as a means of Jewish survival for some and a raison d'être for others. Today, they can easily identify with Israel through a thousand and one philanthropies and causes. They will in no way accept or justify an election which at first glance will cost the World Zionist Organization a minimum of \$750,000. This figure does not include the cost to the individual parties. The total sum finally expended by all concerned for fair and thoroughly democratic elections must exceed two million dollars. There still remains a reported debt

of a quarter of a million dollars from the last Zionist elections.

I do not believe that American Jewry will tolerate even the expense of the minimum sum for elections which have no meaning or significance for it. Even the Zionist household cannot grasp the difference between B'nai Zion and the Zionist Organization of America, and if it does, couldn't care less. According to all predictions, 1977 will be a year that maximum pressures will be applied against Israel and every volunteer will have to be mustered for the impending political struggle in Washington. As president of a Zionist group, my primary concern is inspiring and uniting Jews for a common goal rather than stressing Jewish divides.

Some of our Israeli Zionist leaders insist that democracy requires us to hold elections regardless of the cost. Yet the question that begs to be asked must be answered by them. Who will pay the cost? Certainly not the World Zionist Organization which hasn't paid for the last one. Their isn't a major Israeli political party which isn't in debt itself.

The American Jewish community

## FAMILY ALLOWANCES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir — An item reported captioned "Children protest allowance cuts" (December 20), states: "The children carried signs criticizing Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz and Histadrut Secretary-General Yehoram Meshel..."

The only sign we saw mentioning the Secretary-General read as follows: "Meshel you are our father — We're sure you won't abandon us."

Your readers are surely aware of Mr. Meshel's strong and unwavering position against any abridgement or worsening of the conditions of the children's allowances, and of his battle to retain full c.o.l. linkage of the allowances in keeping with the recommendations of the Ben-Shahar Committee.

Obviously, the slogans at the children's demonstration were intended to indicate agreement with and support for the position of the Histadrut and the Secretary-General on the allowances issue, rather than the opposite, as implied in the news item.

SHMUEL SOLER  
Spokesman of the Histadrut  
Tel Aviv.

## ISRAELI TV

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir — My aggravation with the Israeli TV grows by the day. Apart from the abrupt and often premature stopping of some of the popular TV Series, it is extremely talkative and more often than not utterly boring. Series like "Petrocelli" and "McMillan and Wife" are terribly mixed up. This can easily be checked by watching the house Petrocelli is building. Once it is nearly finished, the next time he is laying the foundations and the time after that, he is finishing it again. McMillan has the same problems in Israel. Once they are newly-weds, the next time, she is pregnant and the time after that, they are newly-weds again.

Series like "High Chapparel" come on the air too late for teenagers and for working adults also, for that matter. The Swedish story for the very small ones "Mummsdalen" is not dubbed into Hebrew and this programme for children who can't read in any language.

How amateurish it all is is shown by the way the Broadcast Authority tries to raise money by having a twice-yearly licence fee. This computer-run operation and of the easily checked by the same computer. Instead, we are pestered by silly films calling for payment of "second half," and house to house visits by special checkers; and many from the money all these cost, they are never used. So much money can be raised through publicity on the screen, a thing which is done in all countries with T.V. Israel already heavily burdened must carry an extra burden.

M.B. DESS  
Rishon LeZion.

## ISRAEL PRESS

### Call for warning to Syria

MA'ARIV (independent) refers to the conflicting media reports about activity — or lack thereof — in southern Lebanon, and holds that they link up with "a communications smoke-screen behind which concrete steps are liable to be taken which constitute a grave threat to Israel's security." Expressing its apprehension that too many cries of "wolf" are liable to lull Israel into a false sense of security, the paper asserts that the Syrians must be given "a renewed warning that we have no intention of acquiescing in an attempt to restore the situation which existed in southern Lebanon before the Lebanese civil war."

YEDIOT AHRONOT (independent), writing on "The two Rabins," says that "Rabin as premier has an interest in not working for accelerated activity in our region on the part of Carter and his new administration." This is because Carter is not yet fully familiar with the issues involved, and because Rabin has no interest in helping the Arabs, "who are in a hurry."

DAVAH (Histadrut), referring to rumors of a secret Syrian-PLO agreement on the shifting of a considerable part of the terrorist forces, with their heavy weapons, to

southern Lebanon, says this would be a grave development from Israel's point of view — the terrorist forces in Lebanon being composed "not only of small raiding groups or bazooka flairs, but also of semi-regular regiments... that could constitute a direct threat to our northern settlements." The paper notes, however, that "at this juncture, there are more rumours than actual evidence."

HATZOFER (National Religious) terms media reports that Syria has decided to lift all restrictions on Syrian Jews, as "nothing more than a propaganda move meant to serve Syrian interests in the international arena."

The Damascus rulers, the paper says, "who are now squinting towards the west and who seek to come out with gains from their joint 'peace offensive' with Egypt, think that by (supposedly) changing their attitude towards the Jews, they will succeed in driving a wedge between Israel and world Jewry, and thus convince (people) that they are for settlements with the Jews, including Israel." Concluding, the paper reiterates that this is a clear propaganda gimmick, "and we must treat it as such."

Gala Premiere of the film  
**RAID ON ENTEBBE**  
(20th Century Fox)  
Charles Bronson, Peter Finch, Martin Balsam  
Horst Bucholtz, Eddie Constantine, John Saxson  
Under the patronage of Defence Minister Shimon Peres  
Mitchell Hall, Jerusalem, Thursday,  
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All proceeds to the installation of a Stair-Glide Lift  
at the Jerusalem Theatre.  
Tickets: Cahana, Jerusalem Theatre box office (4-8 p.m.)  
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With the kind cooperation of Efra-Film and Mr. Moshe  
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On spill: An investigation into the increasing pollution around  
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Meehanists at Ir Ovot: Mary Hadar visits bigamist Simha  
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